THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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Summary of News.

Monday, 17th August.

As has already been indicated, Mr. H. Maxim's aerial machine, now being constructed at Crayford, is nearly ready for launching. It will be propelled by a light screw making 2,500 revolutions a minute. The motive power, it is reported, is supplied by a petroleum-condensing engine weighing 1,800lbs, and capable of raising a forty thousand pound load. The real suspending power will lie in an enormous kite, measuring 110 feet long and 40 feet wide. The whole machine will weigh about 12,000lbs, room being provided for the accommodation of passengers and their transport of from ten to twelve tons of frieghtage.

RATS have multiplied to such a degree in Brazil that the inhabitants rear a certain kind of snake for destroying them. The Brazilian domestic serpent is the *giboia*, a small species of bora about twelve feet in length and of the diameter of a man's arm. This snake, which is entirely harmless and sluggish in its movements, passes the entire day asleep at the foot of the stair-case of the house, scarcely deigning to raise its head at the approach of a visitor, or when a strange noise is heard in the vestibule. At nightfall the *giboia* begins to hunt, crawling along here and there, and even penetrating the space above the ceiling and beneath the flooring. Springing swiftly forward it seizes the rat by the nape and crushes its cervical vertebræ. As serpents rarely eat even when at liberty, the *giboia* kills only for the pleasure of killing. It becomes so accustomed to its master's house that if carried to a distance it escapes and finds its way back home. Every house in the warmest provinces where rats abound owns its *giboia*, a fixture by destination and the owner of which praises its qualities when he wishes to sell or let his house.—*Scientific American.*

THE *Daily Graphic* writes:—"There is so much misunderstanding both inside and outside Westminster as to what is meant by the Indian Famine Fund (or Famine Insurance Grant as it is variously called), that the following explanation may prove useful in view of the prominence sure to be given to the subject in the coming discussion of Indian finance. It is proved that a famine costing on an average 12,000,000 Rx. occurs in India once every eight years. Instead of meeting this large obligation each time it falls due the Indian Government, nominally and when able to do so, puts by 1,500,000Rx. each year as a Surplus Fund. This money is used partly to pay off the actual expenses of the previous famine, and partly for purposes—such as the construction of railway—calculated to minimise expense and suffering when the next famine occurs. As a matter of fact, the Surplus Fund rarely reaches its nominal amount. This year for the first time for several years past it has done so."

A MATRIMONIAL case of a novel nature shortly comes before the Subordinate Judge of Broach. The plaintiff, the daughter of a Parsee merchant of Bombay, seeks for a declaration of nullity of marriage with her husband, on the grounds "that when she and the defendant were infants, six or seven months' old, some ceremony, which is alleged to be a marriage ceremony was performed, but she has no knowledge under what circumstances the supposed wedding took place; that after a short time the parents of the plaintiff went from Broach with their other children and the plaintiff to reside in Bombay, which was their permanent place of dwelling; that she has never lived with the defendant as his wife, nor has she ever lived with his parents; that she has never ratified or acquiesced in the alleged marriage, but has on the contrary repudiated it ever since attaining puberty, and subsequent thereto; that when she attained the age of majority, and before it, she protested against the alleged marriage being considered binding on her; and that she does not even know the defendant." Sherinbai is the name of the plaintiff. The case is being watched with keen interest.

IT is satisfactory to learn that the rain, which has fallen during the last week in the Eastern Districts of Madras, has materially improved the agricultural prospects of the affected tracts.

Tuesday, 18th August.

Iron says:—Calcutta papers continue to agitate for the construction of the proposed India and Burmah railway. Sir Richard Temple recommends the Manipur route. But nothing definite has yet been settled. Work on the Assam and Chittagong railway will be begun after the rains. Negotiations between the Secretary of State and the promoters are still pending, and it is not unlikely that the Government will itself take in hand the construction of the line. The project for the building of a railway from Ahmedabad to Dholleria is making progress, the necessary application having been made to the Secretary of State."

THE Maharaja of Cuch Behar, in distributing the prizes to the students of the State College the other day, laid great stress on discipline. His Highness said: "Most of our kindred institutions in India are, I fear, very badly disciplined, and our own here are no exception. Defiance to constituted authority, indifference, if not positive disrespect to the master, rude off-hand manners, showing no respect to age or to superiors, whoever they may be, are all very common now-a-days. I have often noticed this myself, and whether it arises from the inherent shyness of nature, or from whatever cause it may be, it is a fact that most of you, students, take no notice whatever of persons who are your superiors socially or otherwise. It is impossible to think, you really mean to be rude; but your want of manners leads one to suppose that such is the case. To this I wish to draw your particular attention."

FROM the annual returns of vaccination in Bengal for 1890-91, submitted by Dr. W. H. Gregg, Sanitary Commissioner, we learn that during last year, there were 8 Superintendents, 14 Deputy Superintendents, 19 Inspectors, 15 head vaccinators, 145 paid vaccinators, 1631 licensed vaccinators, and a number of apprentices to carry out the work of the Department. The grand total of cases, vaccinated during 1890-91, was eighteen lacs and thirty-three thousand. During the last three years, vaccination in the District of Chittagong showed a progressive falling off, and the Lieutenant-Governor calls in question the accuracy of departmental returns. Sir Charles Elliott thinks it desirable, in order to make the vaccination operations more effective, to re-organise the department, and to bring it into more intimate relations with the District Executive. The total cost of vaccination in Bengal was one lac and eighty-two thousand against one lac and seventy-two thousand in 1889-90.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"On the 8th August last, a joint general meeting of the Rajshahye Students' Club and the Siksha Parichar Samiti was held at the Rajshaye College with Mr. Livingstone, Principal of the College, in the chair, in honour of the memory of the late Raja Rajendralala Mitra, and the venerable Pandit Iswar Chunder Vidyasagar. Babu Nilkant Mukerji, M. A., spoke at length on the lessons of Raja Rajendralala's illustrious life, and Babu Sasadhar Roy, M. A., B. L., dwelt on "The Life and Doings of the venerable Pundit." The European and Indian, Christian, Mahomedan, and Hindu elements were joined together to record their sense of deep sorrow at the loss suffered by the country at the death of two of her illustrious sons. It was proposed that funds be raised to place two suitable oil-portraits of the two worthies in the premises of the Rajshahye College, and an influential Committee, headed by the Principal of the College, was formed to carry out the Resolution."

A VERY curious fish has been found in some of the rivers of British Columbia. The natives of the Districts in which it occurs, speak of it as the candle fish. And this is a singularly expressive and appropriate name, for the fish contains so much oil in its body that it may be simply dried and used as a candle or torch without undergoing any further modification whatever. It is of a slender make, and measures, when fully grown, about a foot in length.

AT a banquet given at Rustchuk on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the accession of Prince Ferdinand as ruler of Bulgaria, the Prince in a long speech declared that he had attained the conviction, during his recent journeys, that the Emperor of Austria and many European statesmen sincerely sympathise with the desire for an independent Bulgaria.

Wednesday, 19th August.

A RETURN lately published in the English newspapers shows, that at the Woking crematorium there were only eight cremations from 1884 to 1887. In 1838 there were twenty-six. In 1889 the number increased to 46, while in 1890 there were on an average two or three a week. In the current year, the cremation of the body of the late Duke of Bedford has drawn special attention to the subject. Cremation Societies have been formed at Manchester, Leicester, and other large towns in England, but they have as yet published no returns. Cremation is growing in favour with the higher classes in England, but it will be a long time before it is accepted by the masses. The cost is perhaps at present prohibitory. The lowest advertised charge for cremation is fifteen guineas, which includes the conveyance of "the subject" from London to Woking. To the higher classes the charge of only fifteen guineas is acceptable, for an ordinary funeral at the hands of a fashionable (if the term may be permitted) undertaker usually produces a much larger bill. But the lower classes dearly love a funeral after their own heart. A well-informed writer on the ways and habits of the people of the East End of London, asserts that subscriptions are got up to provide quite an expensive funeral for poor penniless creatures, and from every back court and filthy alley crowds emerge in the best mourning habits to do honour to the funeral procession. They would be deprived of this gruesome pleasure if the pauper's body were carried off to Woking by the parish officials to be cremated there. In Italy, it is reported that people are admitted to watch the process of cremation at a charge of four shillings a head, and the revenue from this source is sufficient to defray the cost of cremating the poor of the place. It is a curious fancy to watch a cremation; and it would not be likely to produce a large revenue in England. In Paris, cremation is now quite common. In the United States there are fifty crematoriums in existence. In Japan, every large town has its crématorium, which is under Government inspection.—*Englishman.*

THE House of Commons is probably the best ventilated building in the world. It is, however, no easy task with all the appliances of modern science to keep the air supplied to our legislators perennially pure and equable in temperature. Mr. Prim, the resident engineer, has described to a Select Committee of the House, who have been appointed to inquire into the question of ventilation, the means employed to overcome the difficulties of the undertaking. The quantity of fresh air required is enormous. On one occasion in 1889, when the Government of Ireland Bill was under discussion, and there were 905 persons including occupants of the ladies' and strangers' galleries, within the Chamber, 1,200,000 cubic feet of the air were pumped through it, and the atmosphere was completely changed more than seven times every hour. This with such a House, was a notable feat. It is easier to warm than to cool the House. For the latter purpose the air is passed through jets of water, and over blocks of ice. The engineer is generally asked to keep up the temperature as the night advances, showing that the members need more artificial warmth as they become wearied with long sittings. To keep out the fog the ventilating stream is passed through water jets and two layers of cotton wool 6ft. thick. Sir Henry Roscoe, who, besides being M. P., is an authority on Chemistry, opined that this system of filtration should be in constant use and those who have thought of the stuff with which the atmosphere of London is charged will be inclined to agree with him.

Freeman's Journal of the 22nd ultimo writes:—"The rumour that Mr. W. H. Smith will go to the Upper House at the conclusion of the present Session is renewed with persistency, owing to the continued ill-health of the Leader of the Government in the Commons. Mr. Balfour is again named as his probable successor, although it is said that Mr. Goschen is more likely to succeed Mr. Smith. In the event of Mr. Balfour leaving the Chief Secretaryship, Sir John Gorst is mentioned for the Irish Office, which he would be able to carry on with the assistance of Mr George Wyndham, who is Mr. Balfour's right hand."

AN Association has been established in Bombay, under the presidency of Mr. Justice Telang, with the object of giving an industrial training to native women.

Thursday 20th August.

A NEW clock, says the *Indian Engineer*, has been invented by a railroad engineer that promises to be a great advantage to locomotive engineers. The dial-plate and figures are large, and so are the hour and minute hands As a train whirls by a station, the hour and minute hands whirl round like a flash to mark the correct time, and a red bull's-eye flashes into the dial. Five minutes later the red light turns green, and in five minutes more the green light disappears. The engineer on the next train following can tell exactly how many minutes ahead is the train that precedes him. The clock is a perfect timekeeper, and when the train passes drops the signal light.

A MEETING of the Bombay Millowners' Association is likely to be convened to consider the present position of the cotton industry, in view of the great depression in the yarn market here and in China and Japan. The average annual export of Bombay yarns to foreign ports exceeds 3,50,000 bales, but since the end of last year, though exports are as brisk as ever, sales have been very limited, and the consequence is at the present moment, that more than 1,25,000 bales are lying in Hong-Kong and Japan either unsold or sold, but uncleared. The godowns of the local mills are quite full, and it is feared it will be necessary to restrict the output, and to effect this a stoppage of eight or ten days monthly is probable.

A SOMEWHAT absurd rumour has recently been started to the effect that Sir. H. M. Durand was very anxious to be appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab on the retirement of Sir James Lyall. The Foreign Secretary, has, says a contemporary, plenty of time before him before he need become Governor of a Province, for if he had been offered and accepted the Punjab his term of service at the close of his reign would not have entitled him to pension.

THE *Pioneer* writes:—'It is a very simple matter for a member of Parliament like Mr. Maclean to rise in the House of Commons and propose that "it is desirable in the interests of Indian and Afghan trade to extend the railway to Kandahar;" but it is a very different affair for the Government of India to entertain such a project seriously. In the first place the Amir of Cabul has of late years steadily pursued the shortsighted policy of levying almost prohibitive tolls on goods exported from India; and this, coupled with the selfish policy of Russia in boycotting Indian and English manufactures in Central Asia, has seriously interfered with the natural course of trade. It seems hopeless in the face of his obstinate attempt to revive commerce along the old Khorasan route. Even the extension of the railway to the Peshin plateau has not had any marked effect in reviving trade. If the rail were lain into Kandahar itself, there can be little doubt that trade would expand, not only with Southern and Western Afghanistan, but with Eastern Persia; but the political difficulties to be overcome are enormous. The extension of the line even to New Chaman created alarm in the mind of Abdur Rahman, and a proposal to continue it to Kandahar would still further excite his suspicion. It is possible that his consent might be won by heavy payments for each mile of rail laid; but there would be endless trouble and risk involved in the working of such a railway, and serious complications would sooner or later ensue. The Government of India can only wait until in the ripeness of time the opportunity offers for making the line without arraying the Afghans against them.'

A CASE of considerable interest to the mercantile public in India has lately been decided by the Privy Council. Two High Courts in India had given different rulings in the matter, which has now been decided once for all. An Indian merchant, named Lala Bhagwan Das, shipped a consignment of goods for Rangoon on board the Irravadi Flotilla Company's Steamer. The goods were destroyed by fire on their way to Rangoon, and the merchant sued the Company for the recovery of the value of his goods. The Becorder of Rangoon who tried the case held that the Company were, as common carriers, liable to damages and the Calcutta High Court upheld this decision. As a principle was at stake, the company resolved to have the matter fought out to the end, and an appeal against the decision of the Calcutta High Court was lodged before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London. It was pointed out by the Company's counsel that in 1870 it had been ruled by the Bombay High court, that common carriers were relieved of liability as insurers by the Indian contract Act of 1872, unless a special contract had previously been entered into. The Privy council has now settled this disputed point by upholding the decision of the Calcutta High Court, and the public will have the satisfaction of knowing that companies as common carriers are liable as insurers to prosecution for value of goods destroyed in transit.

Friday, 21st August.

THE Madras Government is said to be doing all in its power to encourage the construction of wells in the distressed districts. Loans, to be repaid on easy terms, amounting to over Rs. 2,62,000, have already been granted for well-sinking in the districts of Chingleput, Tinnevelly, Cuddapah, North Arcot, and Coimbatore.

IN a short pamphlet on "the treatment of Leprosy as observed in Kashmir by nerve-stretching," by Dr. A. Mitra, the chief Medical officer of the State, the question, is Leprosy contagious, is thus treated at some length:—

I have seen in a family the grandmother, an old woman, suffering from a very bad type of ulcerative leprosy, attended with fetid discharge and sloughing. The affectionate daughters and grand-daughters nursed her without the slightest thought of themselves. The old woman died two years ago. None in the family was affected. From my experience I can cite no instance in which the disease was transmitted from a leper to any member of his family, with whom he lived together and mixed closely in social life. Though leprosy is not common among the Kashmiris, still Kashmir is resorted to by a large number of lepers for its climate and means of livelihood. These lepers freely mix with the people, sit, eat, and pray with them (lepers are usually found at the doors of Moslem prayer-houses), and no precaution against contagion is thought of, still the disease does not spread among the Kashmiris. In India and in the northern hilly countries we find lepers freely mixing with their relatives, walking about in public streets; leprous husbands having progeny from their unaffected wives; in short, the public is exposed to the disease in every conceivable way. Does it extend in the proportion it ought if contagion by contract be admitted?

Contagion by inoculation is, he says, quite possible and is known to have often taken place, as people in this country have generally their feet and skin bare. Especially in hot weather inoculation becomes very likely. But the segregation of lepers Dr. Mitra does not think feasible. He rightly maintains that it often baffles even experienced physicians to recognise and distinguish the disease from several forms of skin diseases and neuroses.

DR. MITRA'S remarks as to the treatment of leprosy are no less interesting. He disposes of the theory that the disease is due to fish-eating by stating that he has known many cases of people who abstain from all animal diet getting the disease. The Goojars of Kashmir who suffer from the disease do not eat fish. Since the theory was first mentioned in the *Lancet*, Dr. Mitra had been asking his leprous patients if they have been eating fish, and all the replies that they gave him showed that fish eating did not produce leprosy. In India the disease is prevalent among *Vaishnavas* who do not take any animal food. High class Hindu widows are strictly prohibited from taking fish, but Dr. Mitra has seen several cases of leprosy among them. As regards the treatment of the disease the doctor says:—

In the treatment of lepers, chalmugra oil, gurjon oil, both internally and locally, neem (Azadirachta Indica,) and arsenic have been given trial. In the ulcerative stages of both tubercular and anæsthetic varieties local applications of gurjon oil or neem oil prove of some value in healing and checking fetor. Creolin does the same. These, however, have little or no power in arresting the progress of the disease. In the anæsthestic variety I have practised nerve-stretching in fifty seven cases. I am of opinion that in the early stage nerve-stretching produces very satisfactory results in a large majority of cases. This treatment, can be safely called a palliative treatment.

A CYCLONIC storm of considerable intensity, which passed over Allahabad on Wednesday, was accompanied by very heavy rain, which commenced coming down in torrents at eight o clock on Tuesday night. It continued without intermission late. The rain lasted nineteen hours, during which over fourteen inches had been recorded. This beats the record in the memory of the oldest inhabitants. Great damage has been done to houses, scores of *kutcha* buildings having been washed away; tanks have overflowed inundating several parts, and the whole of Allahabad was almost under water. The extent of the damage is not yet known, nor whether any fatalities have occurred.

MR. BAINES, Census Commissioner, has arrived, in Calcutta for the purpose of judging of the progress made in the work that has been put in hand since the Census was taken. He shortly visits Madras and Bombay on similar duty.

THE soberer French journals are uneasy at the unceasing Russophile demonstrations which are taking place throughout France as tending to dangerous excitement.

WORK is progressing rapidly in the catchment area of the Simla water-supply. Connection with one of the principal springs is to be established in a week unless another destructive storm occurs.

Saturday, 22nd August.

THE *Times* publishes an account of an act of brutality perpetrated by the Russian authorities at Warsaw. Governor-General Gourko ordered a boy of ten, a Pole, to be severely flogged for a trifling offence. The Polish inhabitants are said to be greatly exasperated.

IN addition to other papers, Count Moltke has left a kind of autobiography comprising twenty-nine diaries, which cover almost the whole of his military career. These diaries, which give vivid illustrations of Moltke's character, are to appear first as serials in a German periodical and in an English illustrated journal, They will afterwards be issued in book form.

HERE is a cure for hydrophobia:—Dr. Buisson when he found the first indications of the dreadful malady supervene upon injuries received from the bite of a mad dog, bethought himself of the means of dying a painless death resorted to by the Romans who had, like Seneca, to 'pass sentence on themselves.' A Roman so situated went into a hot bath, and then opening his veins with a razor fell insensibly into the sleep of death. The French doctor intended to escape in this fashion by timely suicide the dreadful horror and prolonged agony of death by hydrophobia. He caused a hot water bath to be prepared and immersed himself in it when at a temperature of 96. The heat was then raised by degrees to 127', which he considered the most suitable to hasten the effect of the contemplated bleeding. To his surprise he found that the heat assuaged the symptoms from which he was suffering. He caused the heat to be still further augmented and remained in the bath for three hours. He took another similar bath after a safe interval, and then another. The symptoms did not return. This method was tried subsquently by him on a number of patients, and in all of them it acted with efficacy. Miss Frances Power Cobb writes to the *Spectator* to call attention to this method of treatment, which has among other advantages over that of Pasteur that of being available to everyone, and of easy application without a long journey to Paris.

THERE is said to be no doubt that letters from Mr. Gladstone to Mrs. O'Shea are in existence. They have recently been shown to many persons, and they are seen to be in the ex-Premier's own hand-writing. Mrs. O'Shea was the medium by which the secret negotiations between Mr. Gladstone and the Parnellites in connection with the Kilmainham Treaty and other matters were conducted.

A CEYLON paper states that there is a great likelihood that Arabi Pasha and his followers will be sent to St. Helena, inquiries having been recently made at that island to know if they can be put up there. The Governor of the island has replied that there is room for them.

ENGLAND will be represented at the World's Fair at Chicago by a Royal Commission.

THE most important branch of India's foreign trade by land is that with Nepal, which aggregates over 3 crores of rupees.

THE Bombay High Court has just been called upon to dispose of a case which would never have been heard of had the Magistrate acted with common judgment. A boy named Bali, about fourteen years of age and known in his native place as a mischievous wight, climbed over the wall of a house and made off with a couple of cooking pots. It was clear from the evidence—the boy was the first to admit that he had taken the pots, and to laugh at the escapade—that no theft was intended, and the Magistrate acquitted the accused of dishonesty. He was nevertheless sentenced to two years' imprisonment in a reformatory, and when he slipped his handcuffs and attempted to escape, was sentenced to another two years' rigorous imprisonment in jail. The learned Judge(Mr. Justice Jardine) argued at great length "to establish the distinction between a dishonest act and a mere boyish prank, but most Englishmen, who have been English boys, ought to have little difficulty in appreciating the distinction. At the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, said Mr. Justice Jardine, and the public schools at home, I believe burglaries are sometimes done by the students on each other by breaking into rooms with intent to annoy; but no one ever thinks of complaining." The sentence on Bali was reduced to three weeks' imprisonment, but it is a pity he was ever entered in the books of crime at all for an offence which merited at the utmost a whipping from his guardians.

WE are pleased to observe that the Baidayanath Leper Asylum project is attracting the increased attention of the public. The handsome donation of Rs. 2,000 of the Hon'ble Dr. Mahendralal Sircar has been followed by a munificent gift of Rs. 500 from Babu RamChurn Tewari, a well-known Marwari broker of this city, another of Rs. 100 from Maharshi Debendra Nath Tagore, and a third of Rs. 50 from Pandit Girish Chunder Vidyaratna.

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1891-92.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday*, the 25*th Inst.*, at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Action of Voltaic Electricity on the Magnet.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on *Thursday*, the 27*th Inst.*, at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Pneumatics: Physical Properties of Gases

LECTURE by Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, M. A. on *Friday*, the 28*th Inst.*, at 4½ P. M.

Subject: Process of Integration. Geometrical interpretations Quadrature of Plane Curves.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S. on *Saturday*, the 29*th Inst.*, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Sulphur, and its Compounds with Hydrogen.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
August 22nd, 1891. *Honorary Secretary,*

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 1891.

MANIPUR.

THE *Englishman* does not relish the *Pioneer's* blunt remarks in regard to the Manipur "business". Our Contemporary thus castigates the Allahabad journal and vindicates Government:—

Throughout India the final decision in the Manipur cases has given profound satisfaction. The delay, in the circumstances, was unavoidable; but none the less, it excited a vague feeling of doubt and uneasiness as to the result. This feeling found expression in a strange form in quarters where better things might have been expected. For instance, an Allahabad paper during the period allowed for the presentation of the petition, went so wide of the mark as to tax the Government with a cowardly desire to shilly shally until Parliament was prorogued. We only refer to this as a specimen of the writing that has been indulged in, at a time when Government might well have expected the Press to have treated the Manipur question with the respect due to an important issue which was still *sub judice*, and with regard to which a date had already been fixed for the acceptance of final appeal. There can be no doubt that Government has greatly strengthened its position by adopting the functions of a Court of Revision. By doing so, it has forestalled the cry which would certainly have arisen, that the full and adequate representation of the case had been burked. In thus allowing an opportunity for the fullest consideration of cases, and for the utmost achievement of skilled advocacy, Government has rescued the decision of the Court from cavil and censure, and has exhibited both patience under severe provocation and tenacity of its purpose of doing strict justice in the face of all obstacles.

It is useless now to question the justice or propriety of a sentence that cannot be recalled. But it will always be felt and said that the unfortunate Princes had no proper trial in a proper tribunal with proper legal assistance. If the Government of India did adopt the functions of a Court of Revision, there was the very important omission of not *hearing* Counsel for the accused, a privilege which, as Mr. Ghose in his able appeal pointed out, is accorded to the worst of criminals in all the stages of legal proceedings against him. Many words need not be spent in demonstrating the utter futility of written appeals where oral arguments are needed and allowable to convince a Court and to place all facts before it properly. Where "skilled advocates" could have no room for proper advocacy whatsoever, it is idle to talk of full and adequate representation. Prince Tikendrajit and the Tongal General may have been punished very rightly, but the regret always will be that the beaten and safe path of legal procedure was needlessly deviated from. In the words of a celebrated Judge of England we say that it is not enough that justice should be *substantially* done, but it should be done according to *law*.

Capital sentences can under no circumstances give "profound satisfaction throughout India" and if any one grumbled at the delay, it is people of the disposition of the *Englishman* who feel "profound satisfaction" in these matters. It is said that Government is anxious to meet Mr. Ghose's arguments and will yet reply to him in full, and that some learned member of the Calcutta bar has been requested to prepare the draft reply. We cannot believe that Government will thus go out of its way to vindicate itself, when it is perfectly unnecessary to do so. As for the vindication of the *Englishman* the sooner it ceased the better reason the Government would have for being thankful in being saved from its friends. It is said that the Home Government despatch, conveying views on the Manipur affair, has reached India which will clear up many matters and it is said that an early number of the *India Gazette* will contain the views of Government on the subject. In the meantime the Secretary of State's despatch reviewing the Government of India's policy relative to Manipur is published. It conveys general approval on all points, except the proposed arrest of the Senapati at the Durbar, Lord Cross holding that such assemblies should properly be regarded as purely ceremonial.

In the face of assurances of clemency given in the Lords, the Secretary of State in Council is said to have sanctioned the Manipur executions by wire. Lord Cross himself appeared to be in no way opposed to clemency and there was thus an apparent inconsistency in his Lordship's decision which remained to be explained. Taking advantage of this position of affairs the following telegram was quoted by the *Morning Post*, of Allahabad, by way of explaining it. Had it any truth in it, it would indeed tend to show that Lord Cross's hands were practically forced by a sort of covert intimidation. Lord Lansdowne was said to have telegraphed to Lord Cross:—"If decision of Executive Council regarding Senapati and Tongal General not confirmed I unreservedly resign." The report was circumstantial enough to have the look of truth about it, but it was difficult to believe that the Viceroy could have been actuated so far by *zid* where human lives were concerned and where mercy would have been hailed with lasting gratitude. The Secretary of State and the Viceroy themselves might have spared the unfortunate princes without betrayal of the slightest weakness that might have the look of political inexpediency about it. The attitude of Lord Lansdowne's Government, supposing the report was in the slightest degree well-founded, would certainly not be that of a Revision *Court*, a position that the *Englishman* claims for it, for it would have been as much proper for a Sessions Judge to send word to the High Court revising a death-sentence passed by him that he would resign unless it was confirmed in a better light. Public sympathy and support would be with Government if it was pleading for mercy instead of death, The *Statesman* presuming the report to be true spoke somewhat strongly on the rumoured telegram:—

Such an incident would deal a deadly blow to our faith in British statesmanship and in existing guarantees of justice and liberty. Indeed, it would do more than this; for it would impair, in some degree, our faith in human nature itself, and set us searching for some general cause capable of explaining so phenomenal a combination of weakness and folly in a body of statesmen like that composing the British Cabinet, as the event would demonstrate. The liberty of the Viceroy to resign at any moment on the ground of accomplished facts is, with certain qualifications connected with his obligation not to jeopardise the interests committed to his charge by sudden desertion of his post, indisputable. Whether he is, under any circumstances, justified in endeavouring to influence the policy of the Home Government by a threat to resign, is a delicate question. But if such a course is justifiable at all, it can be only in the case of a question of policy. To hold out such a threat in connection with the decision of the Home Government in a judicial matter, would be as much an attempt to tamper with the course of justice as it would be for an ordinary suitor to attempt to bribe the Judge, or to coerce him by presenting a blunderbus at his head. A Viceroy who should make such an attempt would forfeit all title to confidence, and no Ministry with a grain of self-respect would tolerate it for twenty-four hours.

This was on the supposition that the telegram was not a myth. However, the *Englishman* describes the telegram as sheer nonsense, and we are heartily glad of and profoundly thankful for the announcement. Nothing could be more painful than the impression that the telegram, if true, would have left on the public mind, and we are sorry it has been given currency to at all. We notice this matter only in the hope that the author of this falsehood will be properly punished for having recklessly defamed the Viceroy.

A proclamation is shortly expected regarding Manipur, announcing the final decision of Government as to the future of the State. It is considered unlikely that "the hill tracts of Manipur will be annexed, such measures being taken as will ensure complete control over the Kuki and Naga villages which have not yielded willing allegiance to Manipur in the past."

The Maharaja of Manipur and Prince Ananga Sena and the officer who led the attack on the Manipur Residency were secretly deported from Manipur on Wednesday night and sent on to the Andamans. A Manipur telegram says:—'All arrangements were carefully made beforehand, and the secret had been so well kept that there were no Manipuris about, and the guard marched off without any trouble. A pony was provided for the Raja to ride, as otherwise he would have delayed the escort, but one sepoy led the pony, and two marched by the side, and he was kept in the middle of the escort; the other two prisoners were handcuffed together.' The unfortunate princes might have had a little more courtesy shown to them.

THE HYGIENE CONGRESS.

A RESOLUTION has been adopted by the Congress of Hygiene and Demography which has just closed, in favour of compulsory cremation in all cases of death from infectious diseases. This looks like business and common sense. 'Horrid Hindu notions' of sanitation are fast finding favour in civilized Europe, which is a significant sign of the times. What is now emphasised by the combined scientific talent of the world, cannot be lightly dealt with any longer. The question remains how the Christian and Mahomedan world will accept the suggestion. The *Statesman* writes:

That the disposition of the body after death is pre-eminently a matter which the State might beneficently control, will probably be admitted by most unbiased persons who look at the question from a purely practical standpoint, however strongly they may be opposed to any unnecessary extension of the functions of Government. But unfortunately the question is one which only a small minority of mankind are capable of looking at from a purely practical stand-point. There is probably no branch of human economy about which sentiment exercises itself more strongly than about this, or which is more intimately associated with men's religious beliefs; and any attempt to legislate on the subject would be certain to arouse the fiercest opposition. So far removed, indeed, is the question from the sphere of practical politics, that it may be doubted whether the Congress acted altogether wisely in making it the subject of a formal Resolution. Everybody, it is true, is perfectly well aware that the deliberations of such gatherings are of a more or less academic character; but that is no reason why the delegates should deliberately do anything calculated to arouse popular prejudice and so minimise the influence they are likely to exert on the arrangements of mankind; and it strikes us that the Resolution under notice is not unlikely to have a very considerable effect in this direction. Medical men are already recognised as occupying a prominent place, if not the very front rank, among the enemies of popular liberty. No one questions the excellence of their intentions; but there is a limit beyond which even the best intentions become causes of provocation, and we are not sure that even the physician can afford to transgress it.

This logic carried to its legitimate consequences would put the Consent Act out of the Indian Statute Book in no time. But in the latter case it is only Hindu sentiments alone that were in question.

The Queen received the leading delegates to the Congress at Osborne on Friday before last. The Hon. Grant Duff, presiding at a crowded special meeting called to discuss the question of hygiene in India, urged that it was essential for Native feeling to be in unison with theirs in improving sanitation. Sir William Moore gave a hopeful sketch of the progress made in sanitation in India, and notably of the results attending vaccination. Surgeon-Major Hendley deprecated elaborate occidental systems

as being irritating to native sentiment. Mr. Holt Hallet's paper, which was read at the demographic section of the Congress, drew a dark picture of the condition of the factory operatives in India, official reports being cited in support of his statements. He declared that Indian Legislative Councils are composed of capitalists who are indifferent to the welfare of the operatives. The Native delegates, however, affirmed that the life of Native workers is a happier one than that of their English comrades.

Mr. Holt Hallet's position as an advocate and mouth-piece of British mill-owners is no secret to the Congress and the testimony of Native delegates ought to go very much against him and his "official reports." Official reports proper do not encourage the extra-humanitarian principles that will make rest obligatory at the sacrifice of food, clothing and home. It has repeatedly been demonstrated that mill-operatives in India fare much better than their agricultural brethren, leave alone English laboufers. The wonder, therefore, is that in the name of humanity, the "trade" should continue to put forward preposterous ideas that cannot be conscientiously entertained for a moment. As it is, Indian industries have suffered and are suffering much from British jealousy and a scientific assembly should hardly be made a peg to hang business hobbies on. We trust Indian delegates generally, whether native or European, have done their duty manfully and exposed the fallacy and absurdity of the position taken up by Mr. Holt Hallet and his friends, for on no account should the Congress have been allowed to be led into their mode of looking at industrial questions. Inspite of Surgeon Major Hendley's deprecation, we are afraid sentimental legislation often proceeds from recommendations and suggestions of bodies like the Congress and their good opinion in our favour should be earned at any cost. Sanitary fads on theoretical bases pushed to the extreme, are the real enemies of progress of sanitation in conservative countries like India, and if sensible men like Surgeon Major Hendley could impress upon Dr. Simpson and other Indian "experts," this great truth the Congress will not have been held in vain, so far as India is concerned. Ideal hygieas in arid deserts of Africa, where Dr. Simpson's "villages" are capable of easy removal and disposal, are all very good in their way and sanitary experts are perfectly welcome to conduct their experiments this wise if they choose. But without downright Hausmanisation or reckless disregard of vested and cherished interests, crowded localities like Calcutta cannot be brought to their mode of thinking and doing, all of a sudden. One has to proceed cautiously and with due regard to prevailing circumstances and existing facts. If any good is to be done really and truly, it will be on this line of work and no other. If Dr. Simpson is made to carry away this idea and nothing more from this historic gathering of scientific men of all the world, the action of our Municipality in having deputed him at the rate-payers' cost in the teeth of well-pronounced public opinion, will have been in a great measure condoned.

The Congress closed on Monday. At the closing of the meeting Mr. Douglas Galton said that he rejoiced at the number of Indian delegates who had attended the sittings, and expressed a hope that the work done by the Congress would have beneficial results in India. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Indian authorities and the Native Princes for the support accorded to the Congress.

SANITATION IN BENGAL.

II.

IN a recent issue we had occasion to review the Resolution of the Bengal Government on the Report of the Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal for the year 1890, and we drew special attention to the extremely defective methods of registering births and deaths throughout the province, to which the Resolution referred. We propose this time to review generally the sanitary condition of the province during 1890, and give a short history of the chief diseases which form the principal causes of mortality therein.

Both by comparing statistical accounts and by consulting the opinions of the local medical authorities, we find that the health of the province during 1890 has been worse than it was in 1889. Cholera was no doubt less prevalent, but the ravages of small-pox and fever were in excess of what they were in the previous year, whereas our new visitant, the Influenza, prevailed in an epidemic form and seriously affected public health. Some districts fared better than others, but the result on the whole was deplorable. After the passing of the compulsory Vaccination Act, our Municipal Bodies in the different towns in Bengal cannot reasonably complain of their not being sufficiently empowered to take effective measures to prevent the recurrence of small pox, and we hope to see a better state of things next year.

Comparing the mortalities in Bengal, Behar, Orissa and Chota Nagpur in respect of cholera, small pox and fever, during the year under review, we find that cholera increased in Behar by 89 per cent over the figures for the previous year, but that it decreased everywhere else, the decrease in Orissa, the place reputed for this malady, being so great as 10·33. There was an increase in small pox everywhere, the greatest increase being in Chotanagpur and Behar, where the rates of increase were ·09 and ·08 respectively. Fever as usual was highest in Bengal, where the rate of increase was 1·46.

Looking upon the diseases separately, we take up the case of cholera first. During the past year, there were 145,885 deaths against 171,103 in the previous year and against 147,762 the average for the preceding five years 1885-1889. There was thus a remarkable decrease in the number of cases. But the disease was also less widespread in 1890 than in 1889. It prevailed epidemically in 66 registering circles, against 96 in 1890, severely in 83 against 68, with slight severity in 490 against 467, and was absent from 58 against 14 in the previous year. It affected 22,363 villages in 1890 against 26,548 in 1889. The most remarkable feature, however, in the cholera history of the last year, is the fact that those districts which suffered most from this disease in 1889 (*viz.*, Puri, Balasore, Purnea and Cuttack) enjoyed comparative immunity last year, while those which were comparatively free from this malady in 1889 (*viz.*, Furidpore, Chumparun, Bhagulpore and Dacca) head the list of sufferers during 1890. This is a feature which the Sanitary Commissioner has admitted his inability to explain.

The Sanitary Commissioner's report embodies the reports of the District Medical officers bearing on the occurrence and prevalence of cholera. These reports throw no new light on the etiolgy of the disease. "The well known predisposing causes, *viz.*, polluted water, local insanitary conditions, imperfect drainge, errors of diet, fatigue and importation are indicated as exciting and favouring, if not absolutely originating, this disease; but as usual, the evidence is in the main confirmatory of the view that outbreaks of cholera are traceable to polluted drinking water, errors of diet and fatigue."

Another remarkable feature in the cholera history is the conspicuous absence of this terrible malady from almost all the annual fairs and religious gatherings held in the province, with the exception of the car festival at Puri, the Khudi Mela in the Maldah District and the Gunga Sagar Mela in the 24 Pergunnas. At Puri, the disease took a virulent form, but at the last two places the outbreak was slight, and immediate steps being taken its progress was arrested. "There can be no doubt," says the Sanitary Commissioner "that comparative absence of cholera from fairs was due to the better sanitary precaution taken to guard against its outbreak in accordance with the instructions contained in a preliminary circular issued on the subject."

Turning next to small-pox, we find that during the last year there were 12,619 deaths against 8,665 for 1889 and an average of 12,189 for the past ten years (1880-1889). As usual, the highest mortality oucurred from March to June inclusive. The death-rate was highest in the Districts of Puri, Champarun, Midnapur, Patna, Howrah, Gya and Manbhum. This high death-rate is traceable to two principal causes; (1) the practice of inoculation and the opposition of the people to vaccination, (2) the importation of this disease from afflicted quarters. It is not to the credit of the Superintendent of Vaccination of the Metropolitan Circle and his Deputy that they have failed to cope with these difficulties. Their hands have been strengthened by the passing of the compulsory Vaccination Act, and in spite of opposition, they can well enforce the provisions of the law. Whatever the case might be with rural areas, where the compulsory law is not in force, no reason can be shown for this high prevalence of small pox in urban tracts, where the compulsory law can be actively worked. The Sanitary Commissioner remarks :—"I am compelled to characterise the administration of the Metropolitan and Behar Circles of Vaccination as weak and inefficient."

Turning, in the third place, to fever, we notice that there were 1,155,569 deaths from this disease in 1890 against 1,101,521 in the previous year. There was thus an increase of death amounting to ·82 per thousand of the population. This increase is set as due to increased rainfall, excessive floods and the deaths from Influenza. This latter disease, which is supposed to have been imported into this country from Europe, took quite an epidemic form last year. It did not prove very harmful to the richer classes, who could afford taking rest and confine themselves within doors during the attack, but it proved highly fatal to the poorer classes, who had to expose themselves out of doors in attending to their daily work. In speaking of the excessive floods as being the cause of the high death-rate from fever, we must always understand the proposition with a qualification. These floods are not harmful in themselves. They do even good by fertilising the soil. The real danger lies in the want of proper drainage, which causes the surplus water of the flood, after it has subsided, to stand over in the form of stagnant pools and marshes, and thus to spread malarial infections. The province of Orissa enjoyed as usual comparative immunity from fever. The Sanitary Commissioner finds an explanation of this in the physical conformation of the country.

Mr. W. H. Gregg, who was in charge of the Sanitary Department for the whole year, inspected 48 municipalities in 1890 against 27 in the previous year. But it appears that he wrote regular Inspection Reports on ten only of these Municipalities. He complains of having noticed remarkable apathy among the majority of the Municipal Commissioners of the different Municipalities in connection with his inspection tour and sanitary matters generally.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION OF THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

THE report by the Board of Revenue on the Revenue Administration of the North-Western Provinces for the Revenue year 1889-90, ending 30th September 1890, has been published with the Resolution of his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces thereon. We notice that the harvests of the year under report, on account of the scantiness and ill distribution of the rain which fell in 1889, and also on account of the heavy fall in the early part of the rainy season, were not satisfactory. The outturn of *Kharif* was considerably reduced, and an unusually dry winter season in 1889-90 brought the *rabi* decidedly below the average. Wheat, opium, indigo and sugarcane, however, fared better. In the thinly populated hills in the Kumaun Division, so serious was the want of food grain that the Government, in order to keep the people in their fields through the next sowing season, undertook the supply of food in the area of scarcity during April and May 1890. This help on the part of Government bore its usual fruit. It saved the people, and kept them up to sow and reap a new harvest, and they are now in a position to repay the Government.

In Etawah and Azamgarh remission of revenue was given to the extent of Rs. 11,000 and Rs. 3,250 respectively on account of the floods which occurred there.

The year was an unhealthy one. Influenza broke out in the spring of 1890 and extended to every district. Small-pox assumed a virulent form and caused two thousand deaths in Etah. The deaths from cholera were numerous, but the disease was generally of a sporadic character. Mussori was visited for the first time by cholera during the summer of 1890. There was a marked rise in the price of *kharif*. The price of wheat was, however, lower than would have been expected from the failure of the rabi, owing to the check on exports caused by the rise in the price of silver. The effect of the high prices in the kharif staple was felt by urban, rural and farming classes alike.

The demand of the land revenue on the roll for the entire province was 4,27,89,447; the actual collection amounted to 4,23,05,886, leaving a balance of Rs. 4,83,561. The total receipts from the several sources of income amounted to Rs. 5,79,10,416 as against Rs. 5,41,71,786 in 1888-89.

The area of land taken up under the Land Acquisition Act was larger than that of the previous year, and was mainly required for canals and buildings and miscellaneous works. Of the 3,423 acres acquired, only 900 acres were taken up for Railway purposes. The average amount of compensation paid for each acre of land acquired was Rs. 58, though this is less than what had to be paid in the previous year.

Notwithstanding a considerable increase in the demand, the collections in State properties have been good. The Lieutenant Governor says that he would be glad to see on all estates of Government a larger expenditure on plans of useful improvement. The outlay on this head was small, and all efforts should be made to set the neighbouring land-owners the example which is to be expected from a State ownership.

There has been a considerable increase of revenue money orders issued, the number of orders having risen from 96,608 to 114,313 and the amount remitted from Rs. 19,54,940 to Rs. 23,40,756. The lambardari system can hence be inferred to be falling down before the new money order system, for the lambardars of small mahals would be willing to pay a small fee to save themselves the trouble of going to the *tehsil*.

The statistics show that Rent Act Litigation, heavier in 1888-89 than in the previous years, increased still further in 1889-90. Taking suits and applications together, there was an increase of 6,965 on the figures of the previous year *viz.*, Rs. 234,,029 against Rs. 2,27,064. The heaviest increases were in the Allahabad and Jhansi Divisions, the District of Allahabad being the most litigious in the province. The Collector attributes this increase to the introduction of the Revenue Money Order system. The Commissioner and the Board, however, do not agree with him; according to them the commencement of the increase is anterior to the introduction of the system.

It is an open question whether the payment of rent by money orders tends to aggravate the ill-feeling between tenants and landlords. This question formed the subject of a special inquiry by the Board. The conclusion that the Board has arrived at is that this system is a symptom and not the cause of the existence of the said ill-feeling. The Collector of Allahabad, however, holds that this system has a tendency to keep alive those quarrels which might otherwise die out.

The Board have been unable to ascribe any special cause to the increase of litigation, specially in suits for arrears of rent. The opinion of the Board is that variations of the harvest produce these fluctuations in rent suits; but, in the present case, the increase has been so steadily progressive that some deeper cause is necessary to explain it. The resolution points to two other probable causes: (1) The gradual decrease in the powers of the lambardars, (2) the number of partitions that have been effected in recent years. There can be no knowing how far the new Revenue Money Order system has contributed to this increase in litigation. The Lieutenant Governor, therefore, very reasonably directs the special attention of the Board and the District Officers to a close observation of facts in connection with the working of the rent MoneyOrder system.

It is a matter of satisfaction to know that the use of printed receipt forms is progressing regularly in the North Western Provinces. There can be no doubt that the use of these forms affords protection to landlords and tenants alike, and reduces disputes between them to a considerable extent.

There was an increase of 6,174 in the total number of applications, mainly under enhancement of rent and ejectments of tenants-at-will; but it is satisfactory to know that in no less than 77 per cent. of the cases decided, were the Deputy Collectors able to effect an amicable settlement of the issue between landlords and tenants, and it is all the more satisfactory, as in most of these cases, the landlords were quite within their rights in demanding enhancements of rent. We are further given the asurance that landlords, as a rule, are not making any undue exercise of their power to destroy occupancy rights when acquired or to prevent their accrual.

There were during the year under review numerous arrests of defaulters in paying land revenue. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Board in holding, that it would be a real benefit to the country if there had been some intermediate process, like the Oudh law of summons to attend, between the writ of demand and the arrest of the defaulter. The Lieutenant Governor has this amendment of the law in contemplation.

The Lieutenant Governor has commented on the unsatisfactory nature of the partition work done by the Board. In all partition cases, compactness of the divided estates ought always to be aimed at. But this end cannot be secured by merely persuading the parties into exchanges. "It is of much more importance that a partition is well done than that it is quickly done."

There has been a great decline in the applications for loans for agricultural improvements. In number and value they are little more than half of 1887-88. The reason of this decrease is not satisfactorily explained.

Latest News and Notes.

THE Lieutenant-Governor arrived in Calcutta yesterday. Lady Elliott was back to town on Friday. In his Khulna reply on Tuesday last, His Honor admitted that Munsifs lived in places "almost unfit for habitation," and Collectors held Cutcherries in buildings "barely fit for stables." We trust something will be done after this strong expression of official opinion. His Honor visited Jessore on Friday.

SIR W. W. Hunter has been nominated a member of the governing body of the Imperial Institute on behalf of the British Indian Association.

LADY LANSDOWNE opened the Simla Fine Arts Exhibition on Monday last, when General Brackenbury delivered an inaugural address of great eloquence and wit.

IT is stated that there will be no Chapter of the Star of India, or of the Indian Empire, in Calcutta this cold weather.

THE *Liberal* says:—"It is understood that Sir John Edgar will be appointed permanently as Resident at Hyderabad on Mr. H. J. S. Cotton's return to India in November." A grievous loss will it be to Bengal and the Bengal Government if the news be true, though for Sir John's own sake we should be heartily glad of the appointment. A few more such sympathetic and large-hearted Secretaries will better any Government and perhaps Hydrabad does need such a guide at the present moment. The rumour, we are assured, however, has no foundation in truth.

THE *Indian Daily News* is nothing if not ill-natured. Not content with endorsing every word of the gross post-mortem libel, uttered by another like him, on the memory of the late Raja Rajendralala Mitra, the *Daily News* pens the following extraordinary paragraph, which will fill all right-thinking men with disgust:—"For the last few days much anxiety prevailed in the rooms of our neighbours—the British Indian Association. They have announced that a public meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta and the Suburbs will be held in the Town Hall in honor of the late Raja Rajendralala Mitra. But not finding warm encouragement from the several sections of the community, European and Native, it was intended to hold a meeting in the Association rooms under the presidency of the Chief Justice, or Sir Alfred Croft, or if none were forthcoming, under the presidency of Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun. But we are informed that they have come to a better arrangement. Following the advice of a great official, the British Indian Association requested the promoters of Vidyasagar's meeting to back this meeting with theirs. To this they have consented. We dare say the great popularity of Vidyasasar will draw a large crowd at the Town Hall, and thus save the honor of the British Indian Association, which was at stake." How this singular concoction of misrepresentations could have been honestly made passes surmise. The British Indian Association would be content enough to do honor to the memory of their late friend, philosopher and guide, in their own humble Rooms. But if the public *want* something else to be done, the Association must show deference to their wishes. As Sir Charles Elliott very kindly consented to be associated with the memorial meetings of *both* the great and good men that the country has just lost, the promoters of both the Memorial meetings arranged to hold them together to suit public convenience. That is the long and short of it, and there is no room for display of the vicious taste and ill-breeding that have been freely indulged in in this concern.

IN compliance with two influentially signed requisitions the Sheriff has convened a public meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta and the Suburbs at the Town Hall, on Thursday next, at 5 P.M, to consider what steps should be taken to do honor to the memories of Raja Rajendralala Mitra, and Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. The requisitionists represent all sections of the community, and the Chair will be taken by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Among those who will speak to the different resolutions that will be placed before the meeting, are the Chief Justice, Maharaja Bahadur Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Maharaja Bahadur Sir Narendra Krishna, Justice Guruda Bannerji, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, Raja Peary Mohun Mukerji, Babus Surendra Nath Bannerji, Kali Charan Bannerji, Protap Chunder Mozumdar, Rev. Macdonald and others. It goes without saying that the Calcutta public will muster as strong on the occasion as ever.

THE *Indian Daily News* finds the establishment of the Press Association a fit subject for ridicule and misrepresentation. It is characterised as "the gathering of clans with rattling of swords and shields in the wonted peaceful glades." Poetical effusions over, the *News* concludes it to be an organisation "for payment of barrister's fees" in the *Bangabasi* case, for which "there is not the slightest need." The meeting is considerd premature and precipitate as being the result of a "panic of those who have lost their heads." Furthermore it is regarded as a rush to arms in apparent defiance of Government, an "attempt to appear courageous like Bob Acres while courage is oozing out at the finger's ends." It is foreseen that the 'preposterous idea of antagonistic position as egards Government" will, "equally *of course*

be disavowed," which does not speak much for the honesty of the organisation either. The whole thing is wound up with an advice "to possess their souls in patience, to be just and fear not." We do not know how to characterise this senile display and would have treated the ravings with the contempt they deserve. We draw attention to them only to show Government what sympathy the Native Press can expect and does get in certain quarters, even when it does its best towards improvement. The Native Press Association, as we have said before, is *not* a Defence Association, and has not the slightest connection with the recent State Prosecution. Let us hope that it will conscientiously do its duty, without heeding the malicious remarks of its enemies. The objects it has set before itself are praise-worthy, and it will, we feel sure, have strength to carry them out. Every effort will have to be made to promote harmony and good feeling between different sections of the community, and to ensure moderation in the discussion of public questions. Care will also have to be taken to impress upon the conductors of newspapers the absolute necessity of verifying facts before giving publicity to them. The Association will have many difficulties to contend against, and considerable tact will be necessary to weld together the discordant elements. But we feel sure that with energy and preserverance the difficulties will be overcome, and the great object which the promoters have in view will be attained.

THE *Statesman* thus refutes the absurd idea started by the *Daily News* in this connection:—

> The supposition of a contemporary that the movement is essentially one of hostility to the Government, and that the functions contemplated by the Association are wholly, or even mainly, of a militant character, is quite unfounded. By increasing the conscious strength of the Press—which, in spite of the somewhat contemptuous remarks of the critic in question—it may reasonably be expected to do, the Association will make quite as much for moderation of language and a judicial spirit, as for violence or defence. It will be entirely the fault of the Government, if the relations between itself and the Association should prove to be those of chronic antagonism.

THERE has been an unlooked for stoppage in the progress of the Shambazar riot cases for a few days owing to one of the jurors suddenly falling ill. It is expected to be resumed this morning

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THE building regulations of the Calcutta Municipality are a fruitful source of prosecutions and convictions, as the following High Court report will show:

Mr. Woodroffe, on behalf of Jadub Lall Shaw, of No. 1, Gobin Shaw's Lane, moved for a rule under Act II of 1888, that all proceedings in the following matter should be stayed. The appellant had raised a parapet on the roof of his house, had built a room on the third storey, and had also erected a varandah without the leave of the Commissioners. The question was whether these were material alterations or not. The defence set up was that the varandah was an old structure but that the roof was new, permission to put up which had been solicited from the Commissioners, and, pending the receipt of a reply, the building was carried on. Their lordships directed the issue of a rule calling upon the Corporation of Calcutta to show cause why the order of the honorary magistrate should not be set aside, on the ground that there was no evidence on the record to show that the verandah or the building on the third storey was a building within the meaning of the Act or a material alteration.

It is clear that material alterations in the building regulations will soon be necessary.

MR. GANTZ, the President of the Madras Eurasian Association has resigned "without giving any reasons." The Rev. Mr. Davis—an Englishman—has been asked to take his place, and this has caused much dissatisfaction among Europeans. Mr. Gantz, who had to renounce the Presidentship of the last Congress under the pressure of his friends, will now be probably more free to act.

THE *Civil and Military Gazette* has been giving currency to a rumour that His Highness the Maharaja of Durbhanga intends to visit Europe next year. We have the very best authority for contradicting the rumour. The Maharaja never had nor has the slightest intention of the kind.

THE latest advices from Chile state that the insurgents have landed near Valparaiso, and have cut the telegraph wires and blown up bridges with dynamite. A telegraphic despatch received at New York, says that the Chilian insurgent troops supported by their fleet are now close on Valparaiso. President Balmaceda is making vigorous preparations to meet them, and a decisive battle is imminent.

THE famous seamless Coat which was kept enshrined over the altar in Treves Cathedral, has been unveiled. The garment is of a brownish fabric. The multitude present at the ceremony venerated it and an impressive ritual was conducted by the clergy, the Bishop in his sermon exhorting the faithful to pay adoration to the sacred Coat.

THE appeal against the District Munsiff's decision in the case of a Brahman convert at Coimbatore, which created some excitement not long ago, has been heard by the District Judge, who has decided that the convert is 18 years of age, and that the Munsiff's injunction was illegal. There should be a further appeal.

THE opposition to Mr. Hutchins' Small Cause Court Bill is daily growing. The mercantile community, of Madras, both European and Native, is aroused to action, and the leading members have requisitioned the Sheriff to convene a public meeting which is fixed for the Friday next. The High Court Judges resent the interference strongly and public opinion is entirely opposed to it as the first step towards the curtailing of the Original Jurisdiction of High Courts in all Presidencies. The *Bombay Gazette* thus speaks of the measure:—

> If any proposal of the kind were brought forward for Bombay, it would be resisted and resented as a project, more calculated to lower the status and diminish the usefulness of the High Court than to serve the public. The High Court ultimately derives its influence upon public opinion from the fact that it is doing the work of the public, and that all classes of the community come to it for justice. Rash restrictions of the area within which it dispenses justice would be more likely to narrow the basis on which its authority rests, to weaken the public respect for it, and seriously to affect its *prestige* as an institution.

IT is once more proposed to transfer the Hughli Courts and the office of the Commissioner of the Burdwan Circle to the old abandoned military barracks at Chinsurah. This is regarded as "arrant vandalism" by the representatives of Hughli, while Burdwan resents diminution of glory that the transfer would involve. Two lacs of rupees that would have to be spent on the Burdwan Commissioner's Office buildings would be saved, it is said, by this economic process. But the other considerations cannot be overlooked in the name of economy either.

THE memorial meeting in honor of the late Babu Kali Krishna Mitter, called by the residents of Baraset and its neighbourhood at the local Trevor School on Saturday before last, was a great success. Though called at a very short notice, it was attended by a respectable number of representatives of some of the Calcutta Associations and by many Baraset men living in the town, and it goes without saying that all Baraset turned out for doing honor to the memory of Babu Kalikrishna. People shed tears as the good qualities of the deceased were dwelt upon. The Chairman, Babu Bipradas Bannerji, happily observed that although the deceased was the truest Hindu living, practising and professing the highest Hindu doctrines, such was the catholicity of his soul that they had heard Moulavis claiming him as "a most learned Moulavi of the faith," while Christians, Bramhos and Theosophists with as much truth, respectively claimed him as peculiarly their own, as was done in the case of Raja Ram Mohun Roy. The deceased while living, was ever firm in refusing to sit for his portrait—hard-pressed as he had been by the people of Baraset for a long time past. He always exhorted them to apply all their spare funds without thought of such uses, to the relief of distress of which there was so much around them. The meeting in deference to this prominent trait of the deceased's character resolved that the Memorial should take the shape of scholarships for a few poor students and a periodical allowance of medicine to the poor of the place.

WE congratulate the public of Baraset on the good sense and good taste displayed by their leaders in having resolved to designate their local Female School in future as the Kally Krishna Girls' School. The Kally Krishna Girls' School of Baraset is reputed to be the first girls' school on this side of India, and, it is said, the late Mr. Drinkwater Bethune, after having inspected this School, came away convinced of the eminently feasible character of the idea of establishing schools for the education of girls in these provinces,—which, he said, only required to be started to command a decent attendance of willing and eager girl-students.

THERE has been a good deal of misrepresentation in connection with the new appointment in the Municipality, the most characteristic of which is the false allegation that supporters of the appointment have withdrawn their support as soon as a particular gentleman lost all chance of obtaining it, as if any one did apply for the post and was refused. This is too absurd an idea to refute, and we for one still think that the appointment should be made and that one of the energetic Commissioners should have it as it will be only for a short time. If money is any consideration, it should be put to the Commissioners that one of their body should lend their services free of charge till the arrears of work are cleared off. We are sure there is public spirit enough among our Commissioners to ensure acceptance of the post under these conditions and for aught we know this will enable many to volunteer who would hesitate with a prospect of pay. As for the suggestion that some officer of the Corporation should do the extra work for a consideration, it is not to be entertained for a moment. In the first place it would be objectionable for any officer to sit in judgment over any department, for the working of which he may be responsible. In the second place if he has any spare time, the Corporation ought to command it without extra remuneration. In accordance to a recent resolution which created so much bad blood, the Vice-Chairman has submitted a statement of his duties, some of which may be safely delegated to the Personal Assistant while others like signing of Debentures and passing Interest slips can be delegated to none.

MR. GEORGE MILN and Miss Louise Jordan are back to Calcutta for a short season and are drawing good houses in the Theatre Royal in the lighter pieces. This is no Shakesperean season and we do not know if Mr. Miln's experiences of the last were such as not to encourage him to try another. Herr Bandman and other Shakesperean artistes, however, found otherwise. It is well-known, that Anglo-Indians do not profess to care much for the Immortal Poet and the educated native community with all their enthusiasm for "Fancy's Child" is probably too poor to satisfy dramatic *enterprise*. In the cold weather some good Shakesperean representations may be looked forward to. There is also a talk of Sarah Bernhardt paying us a visit.

AT the meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, the Merchant Shipping Act was passed, and the Punjab Municipalities Bill was referred to a Select Committee. A bill to amend the Lower Burma Municipal Act of 1884 was introduced and referred to Select Committee at once by suspending the rules of business.

ON the night of the 15th instant, many people are said to have spent an anxious time in Calcutta. "Rumours," says the *Pioneer's* Calcutta correspondent, "were abroad that a serious rising of Mahomedans was imminent, and it was said that opportunity would be taken during the processions, which concluded the Mohurrum the other night, to break out. The Police were again armed and reinforced. The Calcutta Volunteer Rifles were warned to be in readiness to assemble at head-quarters on hearing the alarm sounded. The Naval Volunteers went further, and a strong contingent spent the night on board the head-quarters brig *Chinsurah*. They landed at 11 P. M., and marched to the Fort, and got their guns ready, and when their preparations were completed, returned aboard the *Chinsurah*. The whole manœuvre was carried out in perfect silence. The words of command were given by signals." We can assure the *Pioneer* and its Calcutta correspondent that the alarm, if any, was entirely confined to non-natives, for it did not even cross the native mind that any thing could possibly be amiss when the Police were properly warned and ready, for they are perfectly able to cope with any contingencies that might arise.

THE *Bengalee*, the *Amritabazar Patrika* and the *Statesman* have been re-calling the unusual indulgences that the Press received at the hands of "Clemency" Canning even in the most excited days of the Sepoy War of 1857. Repeated warnings were sent to the *Friend of India* which was writing inflamatory articles like "The Centenary of Plassey" and "Progress of Revolt," which were replied by still more inflamatory articles that at those critical times went a great way in weakening the position of Government. The first warning, says the *Statesman*, was commented on in severe terms in the *Friend of India*, in an article headed "A First Warning;" and this led to a second threat from the Government, which in turn was as freely criticised, in an article entitled, "A Second Warning." The license of the *Friend* was about to be withdrawn, when Mr. Marshman, who had but just returned from Europe, interposed, and, by removing Mr. Meade, the editor, from his office, succeeded in saving the paper from suppression. It will thus appear that it was not one but practically three warnings that were administered to that journal, shewing clearly the leniency with which Lord Canning's administration treated the press, even at a time of exceptional political danger. Had the Home Office to-day been aware of this precedent, it is possible that the present prosecution might not have been instituted."

REGARDING Mr. Pugh's opening address in the *Bangabasi* case, the *Statesman* observes as follows:—

It will not have escaped such of our readers as have read the first day's proceedings in the *Bangabasi* case, that Mr. Pugh, in his opening address for the prosecution, more than hinted that, if the Government could not get juries to convict in cases like that under trial, it would nave no alternative but to restrict the liberty which the Press in India has enjoyed, since the passing of Lord Metcalfe's Act. Whether this statement can be regarded as a threat, or not, depends, of course, upon whether Mr. Pugh made it authoritatively, or whether it merely embodied his own opinion as the probable course of events in certain contingencies; and this we have no means of knowing. But whether it was a statement of fact based on positive knowledge, or merely of Mr. Pugh's private belief it is one which Mr. Pugh might very discreetly have abstained from making while the case was pending inasmuch as it was an appeal to considerations which ought not to influence the minds of the Jury, and which are at the same time obviously calculated to hamper them in their deliberations.

The case being *sub judice* we are precluded from making any remarks on the extreme impropriety of the learned Standing Counsel's observation. On the principle of Counsel's reference to the view that may probably be taken by an Appeal Court being wrong such observations cannot be conducive of fair trial where Jurymen are concerned. Mr. Evans in his summing up also made some remarks as to probable consequences of an acquittal.

THREE murder cases have been tried by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Beverley during the current Criminal Sessions of the High Court. In the first, the jail murder case, the prisoner has been sentenced to ten year's rigorous imprisonment to commence at the expiry of his present sentence. In the Chitpur Road murder case, the accused Pulin Nath Dutt, a young man belonging to a respcctable family, has been transported for life. In the last, namely the Pathuriaghata case, Madhub Babajee has been acquitted by the jury. Mr. Justice Beverley's calender is not over, and on termination of the *Bangabasi* case the Chief Justice will take the Telegraph Fraud case. A concise report of the *Bangabasi* case will be found in another column. If Mr. Jackson closes his address to the jury—which has been described as a torrent of masterly eloquence which has rarely been equalled or approached in the Calcutta Bar—and there is enough time for the learned Chief Justice's charge to the jury—the case may terminate to-day. But this is said to be unlikely.

A HIGHLY sensational criminal case is going on in Naraingunge, Dacca, in which Babu Ananda Chunder Roy, a leading pleader of Dacca and Chairman of the local Municipality, is charged under sections 160 and 161 of the Indian Penal Code and his *Mohurer*, Madhub Chunder Das, with abetment of the same. Messrs Allen and Hyde, of the Calcutta Bar, are prosecuting on behalf of Government and Messrs Hill, Lal Mohan Ghose and Barrow are defending the accused. The facts of the case as opened by Mr. Allen, appear to be shortly as follows:—

It appears that during the measurement of some *ejmali* lands in Beliah, a village in the Manikgunge subdivision of Dacca, a quarrel broke out between the Proprietor and resulted in a murder. Mahes Sukden Kadam and Sakadip were put upon their defence for this crime under sections 148 and 302 of the Indian Penal Code. The trial commenced on the 26th May and lasted for several days. Babu Traylokyanath Bose, the Government pleader, asssisted by other pleaders prosecuted; and Mr. Monmohun Ghose with some pleaders defended. Among the pleaders associated in the case with Mr. M. Ghose, was Babu Ananda Chandra Roy, the principal defendant. It would also seem that Babu Guru Churn Bhuttacharjee was known to be in debt. Taking advantage of this fact, it is alleged by the prosecution, Babu Ananda Chander Roy offered Babu Guru Churn Bhuttacharjee a loan of Rs. 4,000, evidently for the purpose of influencing him as foreman of the jury to vote for a verdict of acquittal. The offer was accepted; but as, notwithstanding his indebtedness, Babu Guru Churn Bhuttacharjee voted for a verdict of "guilty," he subsequently returned the money and received back from Babu Ananda Chunder Roy the written acknowledgment he had given for the loan. It is further alleged that Babu Guru Churn Bhuttacharjee held a letter from Babu Ananda Chunder Roy regarding the affair of this loan and that for the return of this letter Babu Ananda Chunder Roy paid Babu Guru Churn Bhuttacharjee a sum of Rs. 5,000. Both the original loan and the subsequent gratification are said to have passed through the hands of Babu Ananda Chundra Roy's *mohurir* Madhub Chunder Dass. Some rumours regarding these transactions oozed out and found their way into the local press; whereupon enquiries were instituted by the District Judge, the District Magistrate and the local police, with the result that the present prosecution was undertaken.

The case which commenced on the 17th instant is still going on.

THE Subordinate Judge of Hughli has very properly decreed the suit instituted by the sister of Raja Peary Mohun Mukerjee against the Bally Bone Mill Company for nuisance. The Court holds that the coal dust and bad odour arising from raw bones in the Company's Mill materially affect the comfort and convenience of the plaintiff's house, and the inmates' health. It has been ordered that the defendants should so conduct their business within four months as not to be a source of nuisance to the plaintiffs. Permanent injunctions are to be issued for restraining the nuisance if the Court's order is not obeyed within four months. Some more bone-mill and other nuisance cases of importance are going on in and about Calcutta.

THERE is said to be a probability of a railway being made from Mogal Serai to the Sone river. Its extension onwards to the Palamow Coalfields is said to be not yet settled. The bridging of the Sone is expected to cost nearly thirty lakhs of rupees. The branch line from the Rangoon-Mandalay Railway to Myingyan on the Irrawaddy will be taken in hand next cold weather. The *Times* endorses the views set forth in a recent letter from SirWilliam Watkin urging that it would cost only two hundred-thousand pounds to establish a uniform gauge on railways in India. The paper says that such an outlay would be money well spent especially in connection with the facilities afforded for the movement of troops.

THE International Socialist Congress has been opened at Brussels, instead of at Berne, where it was first proposed that the Congress should be held. Delegates have arrived from all countries in Europe, with the exception of Russia and Portugal. The British delegates include Messrs. Burns, Hyndman, and Aveling, and there are representatives of all the trades except Mining. The Congress has unanimously resolved to exclude Anarchist delegates, which is very sensible indeed. One of the Italian delegates to the Congress, who was formerly expelled from Belgium owing to his connection with Anarchism, has been arrested by the authorities, and there is a likelihood that some of the other delegates will be expelled from the country.

THE Cesarewitch arrived at Moscow on Sunday before last and received an enthusiastic welcome. Thanks-giving services were held in the churches for his safe return.

THE recent cowardly assault by seven Military students of the Medical College upon three unoffending Native passengers in a tramcar, which formed the subject of proceedings in the Police Court, has called forth the following observations from the *Daily News* which every right-thinking man will cordially endorse:

It is not at all rare to find Europeans in Tramcars making themselves objectionable to their fellow passengers and ridiculous to onlookers, by bullying and jostling the natives. Their example is followed by others, and the result is that coat and pantaloon-wallahs of all shades and denominations, *Dhurrumtollah Irishmen and Entally* Scotchmen become unaccountably aggressive the moment they enter a tramcar. The purchase of one of the Company's tickets entitles the holder to a seat in the car for a specified distance and nothing more, but this is lost sight of sometime when coat and trousers conceives himself entitled to more for his anna than *dhotie* or *chupkan*, and then it is these sutpid ebullitions of bad taste or cowardly self-assertion occur.

The offenders were let off with a warning only, on Dr. Birch, the Principal of the College, deposing as follows:—

He was sure that after the complainants had heard the very severe punishment, he had departmentally meted out to the accused, they would be willing to withdraw the charge, more especially as a guarantee was given that such conduct would not be repeated in future. He had stopped their leave for the rest of this session, and had reported their conduct to higher authorities. He was not satisfied with the identity of the accused sufficiently to deal with them further, but he was satisfied that the very severe assault which had been committed, was committed by the students of his College. He characterized their conduct as abominable and cowardly in the extreme. He had no sympathy with the accused in one way, but in another way he had. His object was to save them from ruination, because were the authorities to take up the matter, it might lead to their dismissal. He discountenanced such cruelty, brutality and ungentlemanly behaviour, and was determined to put it down with a strong hand, and he would not remain another day in the College, if this was not done. The conduct of the prosecuting Babus, he said, was very gentlemanly; they had acted without the slightest malignity towards the accused, and were ready and willing to abide by his decision in the matter, but he found this a difficult matter, having no materials to go by, and unaided by the Police, whose assistance he had sought. He was surprised that those students, who had actually committed the assault, had not the honesty to come forward, and acknowledge that they should give a guarantee for their future good conduct, if they desired to be leniently dealt with, or the restriction placed on them withdrawn."

THE Russian explorer Captain Barschewsky has returned to Samarkand from East Bokhara, and reports that he has discovered a district with gold-bearing deposits and large lead and iron ore deposits. He also came across naptha springs.

LOCAL.

STATE PROSECUTION OF THE BANGABASI.

First Day.

The trial of the Bangabasi newspaper for sedition and defamation commenced at the High Court on Wednesday morning. The regular Sessions Court, or the Grand Jury Room, being occupied by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Beverley, who is taking the second Sessions Court, the Chief Justice sat in his own Court where special arrangements were made for the accommodation of the profession and spectators. The Court room as well as the corridors and varandas were thronged with eager and expectant crowds throughout the trial and the very approaches to the Court House were packed with dense masses. Order was perfect in and about the Court and was kept by the Police, armed and otherwise, who were in their turn kept in order by the presence of Mr. Lambert and his immediate subordinates. The Goverment was represented by Messrs. Woodroffe, Pugh and Evans instructed by Messrs. R. L. Upton and Cowie; but the Advocate General did not put in appearance. The four accused who surrendered to their bail were accommodated with seats behind their Counsel and Attorneys. Mr. Hill being away to Dacca in connection with the Jury Bribery case, Mr. Jackson instructed by Messrs. Kallynath Mitter and Sarvadhikari was the sole leading Counsel on behalf of the accused, Messrs. N. N. Ghosh, S. P. Sinha and Graham appeared with Mr. Jackson and Messrs. Manomohun Ghosh and T. Palit materially assisted the defence throughout the trial. No sooner had the learned Chief Justice taken his seat than Mr. Jackson moved on notice for postponement of the case for ten days or till the next Sessions. Notice of the application had been tendered to Messrs. Sanderson & Co. in their office and to Messrs. Upton and Cowie at their respective residences the previous night, but had been declined on account of the lateness of the hour and was served on the morning of the trial.

Mr. Jackson read an affidavit by Babu Kali Nath Mitter, stating the grounds upon which the application for postponement was based, to the effect that, though repeated applications were made to the Government Solicitors for copies of the translations upon which they intended to frame the charges and for copies of the charges themselves, and though they promised to forward copies of the translation and charges as soon as they were ready and as soon as the counsel for the prosecution got their copies, it was only on the 18th instant that he received a letter from Mr. Cowie enclosing five printed copies of the translations of the articles in the *Bangabasi*, and from that letter he for the first time came to know that the Government intended to use other articles besides those put in the Police Court in support of the charge, and at the same time he received five copies of the charges prepared by the Clerk of the Crown, and at quarter to 5 P.M. he received copies of translations of other articles from the *Bangabasi*, covering 16 pages of foolscap print. The affidavit went on to state that it was impossible to instruct counsel in the short time which intervened, and that he believed the defendants would consequently be prejudiced in their defence unless time was granted. He had not had time to master the case and to procure certain authorities, and that his application was *bona fide* and not for the purpose of causing unnecessary delay. Mr. Jackson then continued to say that the Government had had a period of time extending over weeks to prepare their case, and yet they were not in a position to deliver their charges until yesterday, and it was impossible for him, within the short space of 12 hours, to consider whether the charges were sustainable or not and to consult the authorities; that it was a matter of the greatest importance, considering the nature of the charges laid before the Court, and he therefore submitted that the counsel for the defence should be allowed sufficient time to look up the authorities, especially as there were in the indictment charges of such an extraordinary character as a charge of defamation against the Government, the charge setting forth that by publishing the words set forth the accused defamed "the Government therein mentioned." Suppose it turned out to be that the Government therein mentioned meant the Government of France. Had anybody ever heard of such a charge like that, and was he to be called upon in 12 hours' time to be prepared to meet such an extraordinary charge.

Mr. Pugh opposed the application and said that circulars and placards were being sent about and that the consequences to public peace would be very serious. Mr. Jackson objected to this as there was no affidavit. The circulars in question are mere appeals for funds in aid of the defence issued by some people taking interest in the defence and not by the defendants themselves. He went on to say:

The relative position of the counsel for the prosecution and for the defence were very different. They have been considering this case for weeks; they were fully instructed days and weeks ago; but we come perfectly new to the case until these translations and charges were put into our hands. His friend said he was not bound to furnish them with translations. If it was the practice of the Court to set out articles without translations, I would have no objection, because then I would be entitled to put my interpretation on the words used. This is not like a case of theft, where a person is charged with stealing this or that. Are we not entitled to put in evidence, or are we to be shut out in this way? Why should I accept as a matter of fact that these translations correctly represent what is supposed to be represented in these new articles. It is not the case of an ordinary translation, where you are bound by the Government Interpreter. Suppose I call people equally competent, who would say that something utterly different was meant, would your Lordship proceed on the assumption that this being the sworn interpertation, his construction must be taken as correct? I say that we are not ready to go on with this case. I can go on if your Lordship compels me to go on, but I have not had time to look into these and several other matters to enable me to do justice in a case of this kind, and I trust your Lordship will grant the postponement we ask for, or make this a remnant. There is nothing to show that there is any ground for supposing that the peace of the country will be disturbed, and though Government has now Counsel enough, by the postponement they will have the additional advantage of Mr. Phillip's assistance.

The Chief Justice.—This is in fact an application to make this case a remnant, because if it is not taken up at once it will be imposible to commence it this Session, and consequently not till the expiration of the vacation. Really and in fact the only ground for the application is that the prosecution have given notice of their intention to use at the trial as against the accused certain articles taken from their paper which are not included in the charge. These articles, if used at all will be used in the character of fresh witnesses, and if it were a question of witnesses whom was necessary to contradict or to enquire into the validity of their testimony, it might have been necessary to postpone the trial for that purpose. But in a case of this kind where there can only be a question of the meaning of the articles where there is any doubt, counsel will be able to use arguments to show that they do not bear the meaning sought to be put upoa them. I see no reason for postponing this case, and the matter must taken its course.

THE DEFAMATION CHARGES.

Mr. Jackson then took objection, under Sec. 273 of Crimimal Procedure Code, to the 2nd count of the indictment, which contained a charge which he submitted could not be made. Suppose it was a case of a private individual, what would it amount to?

The Chief Justice.—Defamation is a compoundable offence by the person defamed. Who is the person who in this case can compound? You can say, if you like, that the Government is not a person or a corporation.

Mr. Jackson:—There is no precedent for such a charge and the object is simply to be able to obtain proof under this count which could not be given under the others.

The Chief Justice.—I should like to hear what Mr. Pugh has to say to the objection taken by Mr. Jackson, that there is no such offence within the Penal Code as defaming the Government, and that defamation is defamation of an individual, either a person or a corporation. If the Governor-General and the whole of his Council are defamed, they can prosecute the libeller as well as anybody else. The question is whether they can prosecute as the Government. I don't think it will stand. You may have it in this way, who has the right to compound the offence? This prosecution can only be put in force by the person injured, and that person has a right to compound the offence for any consideration he thinks fit. Having regard to that, the Government of India of the time was the person within the meaning of this explanation.

The Hon. Mr. Evans followed Mr. Pugh regarding the interpretation of the section of the Penal Code regarding defamation, and referred at some length to the facts and circumstances connected with the *Nildarpan* case, and argued that the Government of India, as by law established, had at least as much cohesion in common between them as the clergy of the diocese of Durham, or, as in this case, of the scattered indigo-planters of Bengal. He prceeded to say:—

It is a question of interpretation of a Statute, and it is very desirable that it should be decided one way or the other. It would be a curious thing if the East India Company, which constituted the Government of India before the Code was altered had apparently protection from libel as well as from seditious libel, and the Government of India had now lost that protection owing to the passing of the Penal Code. Of course the East India Company had a corporate existence.

The Chief Justice,—I don't think the Government is a person within the meaning of section 499 of the Indian Penal Code. I do not think desirable, at this stage of the enquiry, to give any reasons for that opinion, but it is my opinion certainly that these defamation charges should be struck out.

CASE FOR THE CROWN.

The following gentlemen were then empanelled as the Special Jury to try the case:—Messrs. A. Veitch, T. K. Milne, J. M. G. Prophit, A. A. Apcar, C. H. Swinden, E. Cable, O. Steel, A. Campbell, and Babu Boykanta Nath Bose. The following gentlemen were challenged by Mr. Jackson:—J. A. Toomey, N. H. Phelps, Jas. Sinclair, E. Trelawney, T. P. Jack, and Babus Joygobindo Law and Rai Hurish Chunder Mitter Bahadur; while the Crown challenged the following:—D. J. Bagram, Prasad Das Mullick, and A. Stephen.

Mr. Pugh, in opening the case for the prosecution, said that it was one which the Jury had heard or probably had observed, of very great importance—one of the most important cases within his recollection in more respects than one. It was a complaint by the Government of the country, to a Jury, asking for protection against a certain Native newspaper which was published here in Calcutta. It was also a case of great importance, in that it was for the Jury to determine the meaning of Section 124A of the Penal Code, which came up for the first time.

There was no disguising it that this prosecution had evoked very great interest in the town of Calcutta; that the matter had been very much talked about, and, he was sorry also to add, very much written about. Now what he wished them to do was to disabuse their minds entirely of anything that they might have heard or read outside that Court, to bring themselves to a calm and impartial consideration of those articles, and to consider the results which were likely and intended to be brought about by a dissemination of those articles. He wished also to ask them to consider the class of people who would be likely to read those articles, and also the circumstances of the country at the present time, because in order to come to a just conclusion it would be necessary for them to bear all these matters in mind.

THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

A great deal, Mr. Pugh went on to say, would be said in the course of this case with reference to the liberty of the press, and it would be urged that this prosecution was an attempt to infringe the liberty of the press.

The liberty of the press in this country was an undoubted fact, and with the exception of three years it had never been affected since the year 1835. He hoped that this would still continue. But whether it was continued, or whether it was not, he ventured to say that it would depend upon whether the Government would get Juries to do their duty with reference to this matter so as to curb the license of the press without interfering with its liberty. It was only upon the Jury that the Government of the country depended for protection against defamation and it was the maintenance of a free press in India appeared to depend upon juries doing their duty. Was not all that the accused were charged with inspiring against the Government feelings of disloyalty, feelings of loathing, feelings of hatred, and feelings of contempt—feelings which at the present time especially have found vent in riots at Calcutta, Benares, and elsewhere. Now if this was so, it was quite clear that the Government was bound to protect itself.

It must not be taken that the remarks which he made with regard to the freedom of the press applied generally to the press of this country; neither did they apply to the Native press generally because he was

satisfied that the great body of the Native press had recognized the good which has resulted to them from English rule, and that they were loyal to the Government. He would repeat, and say sincerely, with regard to a large portion of the Native press, that it was conducted in a highly respectable and trustworthy manner. It discussed all measures of Government in the widest possible sense, and assigned sensible reasons when they dissented. This, he thought, was a great blessing, and it would be a very sad day, when authorities thought it necessary, owing to the foul character of some of these papers, that repressive measures should be taken. With regard to the rest of them, supposing any measures of this kind had to be taken it would be impossible to single out any particular papers, and the measures would have to be applied to the whole of the Native Press, and he presumed, to the European Press also.

INDIA AND IRELAND.

Commenting on the charge of Baron Deasey in the Irish case of Queen against Richard Pigott Mr. Pugh went on to say —

The state of Ireland was analagous to the state of affairs here, because the position of Ireland in regard to the Imperial Government was very much like the position of India at the present day, wtth reference to the English Government. In England there was a Party Government. One Party might come in and another go out, and yet the Government of the Queen went on as before, and the incoming Government came in by the votes of parties at general elections. Therefore, the use of language which could not be justifiable here was common in England, and was solely used for Party purposes with a view to turning votes at the elections. When the Jury came to deal with these libellous matters the whole aspect of the case changed, and was wholly different and the aim was different. Even with regard to the Age of Consent Bill an agitation was started which, to some extent, justified the feelings of those persons who were opposed to the Bill; but in these articles, on this very question, no attempt at even a reasonable discussion of the measure was made. So again as to other questions, such as famines, outbreak of cholera, the persecution of their religion, they would find nothing in the shape of sober argument.

Before referring to the articles themselves he wished to point out to the Jury the circumstances of this country, because he said he had no doubt it was a matter which would be pressed upon them by the other side. He did not think that any argument of that sort, if properly appreciated, could have weight against this prosecution, and in that view he invited the jury to consider the circumstances. He said:

The way the argument could be used would be this; if there was a rising in India, if during the time of the Mutiny these articles had been written, then they would become very serious matter for people to write and publish them; but there is no Mutiny now, and these are the piping times of peace. He could quite conceive the force of this argument, but these writings must be measured with reference to the circumstances of this country, where there was always danger of riots, and when consequences were to be considered which were likely to ensue under a foreign rule. This was matter for the Jury to seriously consider. Was not this a country where appealing to the religious feeling of the people, pointing out to them that their religion was about to be destroyed must always be dangerous? Was there any period in the history of this country in which appeals of that sort were not quite sufficient to arouse the people? He put it to the jury that even at the present moment riots were going on from time to time.

More people read papers in England than here, but who were the people likely to be impressed by stuff like that contained in these articles. They were not the higher class of Hindus, they were not the most respectable, but he took it they were men mostly of the lower orders, and this could be gathered from the language of the articles themselves. They were not articles deficient in power, they were not destitute of a certain amount of force of language, indeed they were possessed of considerable force of language, and he observed that they were directed to the most superstitious of the people.

The learned Standing Counsel then went on to comment on the articles, the subject matter of the charges at great length and had not concluded when the Court rose for the day.

Second Day.

Mr Pugh continued his address on Thursday and went on to examine the history of the press law in this country at some length He then touched upon the English authorities and proceeded to ccmpare the Press law of Russia, Germany and France with those of England and India. Mr. Pugh then concluded as follows:—

He would just quote Mr. Justice Fitzgerald's charge in the case of Sullivan to which he had already referred. Nothing could have been fairer, and he (the speaker) would ask the jury in this case to consider it in the spirit which Mr. Justice Fitzgerald commended it. His lordship in putting Sullivan's case to the jury said: 'I invite you to deal with the case, which is a grave and important case, in a fair, free and liberal spirit with the article you should not pause upon an objectionable sentence here, or a strong word there. It is not mere strong language such as desecrated court of justice, or tall language, or turgid langauge that should influence you. You should, I repeat, deal with the articles in a free, fair and liberal spirit. You should remember that to public political articles great latitude is given. Dealing as they do with the public affairs of the day—such articles, if written in a fair spirit, and *bona fide*, often result in the production of great public good. Therefore I advise and recommend you to deal with these publications in a spirit of freedom and not to view them with an eye of narrow criticism. Again I say, you should not look merely to a strong word or a strong phrase, but to the whole article, and so regarding each article you should recollect that you are the guardians of the liberty of the press, and that whilst you will check its abuse, you will preserve its freedom. You will recollect how valuable a blessing the liberty of the press is to all of us, and sure I am that that liberty will meet no injury—suffer no diminution—at your hands. Viewing the whole case in a free, bold manly, and generous spirit towards the defendant, if you come to the conclusion that the publications indicted either are not seditious libels, or were not published in the sense imputed to them, you are bound and I ask you in the name of free discussion, to find a verdict for the defendant. I need not remind you of the worn out topic—to extend to the defendant the benefit of the doubt. I ask you again to view the publications in a broad and bold spirit, and give them a liberal interpretation. If, on the other hand, on the whole spirit of these articles, you are obliged to come to the conclusion that their seditions libels, and that their necessary consequences are to excite contempt of her Majesty's Government, or to bring the administration of the law into contempt and impair its functions—if you come to that conclusion, either as to the articles, or prints, or any of them, then it becomes your duty honestly and fearlessly, to find a verdict of conviction upon such counts as you believe are proved. I need scarcely remind you of the oaths you have taken to make true deliverance, without fear or favor, between the Crown and the accused, and I am certain that to the utmost you will strive to do that duty, find a verdict according to truth, right, and justice. Mr. Pugh continuing his own remarks said that he would like to adopt the sentiments of the charge in Sullivan's case in concluding his remarks to the jury. Every word of it had his hearty approval, and he would ask the jury to take the quotation as his own sentiments. He did not rely on the mere strong language used, he did not rely on the turgid and foolish expressions of the articles. He aked them to consider the spirit which runs through the several articles and to consider it in a free, fair and liberal spirit, and he felt that even then—even as Sullivan was found guilty—the jury could arrive at no other verdict in this case than one of guilty. He would not have an opportunity of addressing them again, so he felt it necessary here to ask them not to be led away by the impassioned eloquence of the learned counsel for the defence, but to maintain a calm and impartial attitude, and endeavour to arrive at a fair verdict.

EVIDENCE.

The prosecution then proceeded to call evidence. Mr. Dunne examined one Sanut Kumar Roy an ex-clerk in the Bangabasi Office, who spoke to the publication, as well as the connection of the accused with the paper. As the examination was growing unnecessarily lengthy, the Chief Justice told Mr. Pugh:—

As far as I understand, you have proved the Editorship and Proprietorship of the paper, and you have also proved that a person in the position of a Manager sent 13,000 copies of this paper on these dates to subscribers in the Mofussil.

Mr. Jackson in cross-examination elicited that the witness had no personal knowledge of the connection of the first and second accused as Proprietor and Editor of the paper, that there are four or five people who write for the paper in the editor's room who are not inferior in rank to the second accused, and that the second accused almost invariably leaves for his native vilage Sibnibash, in Zillah Nudia, by the one o'clock train on Thursday and remains away on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and that he occasionally goes to other places. Mr. Jackson put in several articles in the issues of the *Bangabasi* for the 3rd January, 18th April and 2nd May 1891, translations of which were read out and contained highly loyal sentiments. Mr. Evans re-examined the witness at great length and was told that the first accused looks after the religious publications, that he had not heard from the accused himself, that he was the proprietor, that he could not trace any person higher in authority than the manager.

Babu Durgadas Lahiri was the next witness examined who also spoke to publication and the relative position of the accused in the Bangabasi Office. In cross-examination he admitted that he had seen the second accused twice or thrice in the streets during the last six months, never in the office to the best of his recollection; that it was his *impression* or *belief* that the first accused was the Proprietor and second the Editor, that he had deposed in the Police Court that he did not know whether or not he had visited the first accused on business. This witness also was re-examined by Mr. Evans at some length.

Babu Chandra Nath Bose was the third witness examined on behalf of the prosecution and his cross-examination was reserved till the next day. He spoke to having received the paper regularly as Bengali translator to the Government of Bengal and to having translated several articles not the subject matters of the charges, which were put in by the prosecution as evidence of intention and translation of which, as it will be remembered, had been supplied to defence late in the afternoon on Tuesday.

It may be noticed here that the Chief Justice who appeared in the usual scarlet gown on the first, third and fourth days of the trial on the second day had put it off and resumed the civil black.

Third Day.

THE Cross-Examination of Babu Chandranath Bose on Friday elicited the facts of his not having himself made the translations nor having seen them at all. He also admitted that the articles are difficult to translate and that the full force of the Bengali could not be expressed in English. Taking the articles, as a whole, he said there are many of them clothed, as far as the Bengali language will allow, in poetic phraseology. We make room for the most important portion of his cross-examination:—

Will you turn to the translations set out in the charges (page 15)? The article headed "The Revealed Form of the English Ruler." Then turn over to page 16, the Sanskrit quotation taken from the 11th Chapter of the Bhagabat Gita? Are those quotations from the Bhagavat Gita?—I don't exactly remember.

Do you believe it to be so?—I think from the sense as given in English it is so. I am not myself a Sanskrit scholar, but I have a Bengali translation of the work, and it appears to me that they must be slokas from that book.

It is a book regarded in the highest veneration by the Hindus?—I think so.

Is Bishwarup a manifestation of the all-pervading god-head. What would you understand by Bishwarup?—Universal form. Hindus frequently speak of the Almighty as the God-creator, God-preserver, and the God-destroyer.

Now will you look at page 16 again, beginning with the words "at the very sight;" that is, language addressed by Arjun to Krishna?—Yes.

The quotation as it stands is not only not disrespectful and derogatory, but positively a qualified form of address by a devotee?—I think so.

Then will you kindly read the passage beginning with "O! Lord of the Gods." Is not that an

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application to the English of the previous paragraph in Sanskrit?—I think it is not an exact application. It is a mixture of satire.

What is the passage you particulary rely upon for the purpose of showing satire?—The passages beginning with "you, who call yourself civilized," and ending with "proclamation full of policy." These are some of the passages.

To understand these articles a person would have to be acquainted with the Shastras?—I don't think so. The acceptation of the God-head and other such matters will enable many people to understand such writings.

How were you chosen translator for the new articles and not for the old ones?—I don't know.

How would you put in Bengali whether it was an entreaty or a request?—It would be indicated by the tone of the voice; some words might be used, both as an entreaty or request.

There are numerous instances of the same thing in Bengali?—I think they are.

Can you tell me the Hindu proverb with regard to the Kingdom suffering for the sins of the King? Yes. It is "*Raja papee praja nosto*," which means that the subject is ruined for the sins of the King.

That has grown up with the Hindus in their ideas of famines and other things as punishments sent for the sins of the Kings?—That is not the exclusive idea, but it is connected with it.

Have you read books that existed before the English rule?—Yes I have read some.

Have you found that idea expressed long prior to the British rule?—I cannot recollect.

You are yourself an Orthodox Hindu?—I am.

In your opinion, does the Age of Consent Bill clash with the Shastras and the religious rites and ceremonies of the Hindus?—I think it does.

Is it in your belief an interference with the Hindu religion?—It is.

Am I to take it that many people you are acquainted with have been greatly moved by the passing of the Act?—I cannot say many people, for I don't know many, but some I know are moved by it.

People whose loyalty is undoubted?—I think so.

Marriage occupies a very peculiar relation among Hindus, thoroughly bound up with their religion, and much more interwoven into their whole life than among any other nation in the world?—Yes.

The Chief Justice.—As far as you know?—Yes. Is it a part of his spiritual life?—I think so. Is it the Hindu's belief that the Age of Consent Bill will have the effect of lowering the standard of female morality? I have seen it so stated by some people.

Do you believe it?—Yes, I do.

The Chief Justice.—The effect of the Age of Consent Bill will be to lower morality?—I cannot say that. They say that if the effect be to raise the age of marriage, then there must be a lowering of the Hindu standard of morality.

Mr. Jackson.—I put it to you again, in your opinion is the Age of Consent Bill calculated to lower the standard of female morality?—There can be no absolute judgment.

I ask your belief?—It is calculated to lower that standard.

Is it in your opinion calculated to cause a veritable break up of your homes and society and unspeakable moral disorder and confusion everywhere?—I think so.

People have spoken to you very strongly on the subject?—Yes.

In re-examination by Mr. Evans the witness said that people without English education are more religious than the "English-educated" and *Ravan's puri* is a common allusion to a very large family.

Babus Hemlal Datta and Grish Chunder Bose were called to prove the lease of the *Bangabasi* Office in the name of the first accused and Mr. Robert Newman Vears of the General Post Office to prove that the second accused had sometimes been to the Post Office in connection with the *Bangabasi*. Supe intendent Mr. Lamb proved taking charge of the different books and papers in the *Bangabasi* Office under the search warrant and Mr. S. E. J. Clarke was called to prove the signature of Sir John Edgar to the sanction of Government to prosecute. Mr. Pugh then tendered the order of Government, signed by Sir John Edgar sanctioning this prosecution. Mr. Jackson said that this did not seem to be the order of the Local Government. The person who was bound to give the authority should have signed immediately below the words "by order." The Chief Justice did not think that there was any magic in the words "by order." Mr. Jackson asked how would the Court supply the authority. He submitted that the matter was of considerable importance, and that formal evidence of this kind should be strictly proved. Under Section 195, C.P.C., where there was a sanction given by a Court to prosecute for perjury, the order had to be carefully drawn. There was not a single word in this document about the authority of the Local Government, and he submitted that this was a bad order altogether for instituting the prosecution. There should be no difficulty in getting a proper order. The Chief Justice thought it was a sufficient order within the meaning of the section. Mr. Pugh here closed the case for the prosecution. Mr. Jackson, having stated that he did not intend to call any witnesses, Mr. Evans then summed up the evidence.

(See Supplement.)

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Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette—*August 19, 1891.*

GENERAL.—Babu Kali Kumar Roy, substantive *pro tempore* Sub-Deputy Collector, Sungu, Chattagong Hill Tracts, is allowed leave for two months, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st August, 1891, or such subsequent date as he availed himself of it.

Babu Jhan Sunker Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mymensingh, is allowed leave, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, up to the 31 October, 1891, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. A. W. Mackie, District and Sessions Judge, Rungpore, is allowed leave for one month and fourteen days, viz., twenty-one days under article 308 of the Civil Service Regulations and the remaining period under Article 306 (*b*) of the Regulations, with effect from the 18th instant, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved.

Mr. Kedar Nath Roy, Temporary Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bhaugulpore, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Rungpore, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. A. W. Mackie, or until further orders.

Mr H Savage, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Backergunge, is allowed leave for three months, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 20th instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. F. W. Duke, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Khurda, Puri, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Backergunge, during the absnee, on leave, of Mr. H. Savage, or until further orders.

Mr. Surya Kumar Agasti, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to have charge of the Khurda Sub-Division of the Puri District, during the absence, on deputation of Mr. F. W. Duke, or until further orders.

Mr Ashutosh Gupta, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chuadanga, Nuddea, is appointed to act temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of that District.

Mr. E. Geake, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Meharpore, Nuddea, is also appointed to have charge of the Chuadanga Sub-Division of that District, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr Ashutosh Gupta, or until further orders.

Mr. J. Whitmore, District and Sessions Judge, Birbhum, is allowed leave for six weeks, viz four days under Article 308 and 309 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under Article 306 (*b*) of the same Regulations, with effect from the 17th instant.

Mr. Bojendra Kumar Seal, District and Sessions Judge, Bankura, is appointed to be also Additional Sessions Judge of Birbhum, and is authorized, under Section 193 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to try all Sessions cases in Birbhum, during the absence, on leave, of Mr J Whitmore, or until further orders.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Law Lecturer of King's College London (J. H. Scaife, LL.B.), says (Jan., 1891): "Invaluable for examination purposes and as a sound training of the Memory." A Cambridge University) Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle, M.A.) was (Jan., 1890- "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great benefit for your lessons, though it at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Pysician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "Excellent' travelling companion."—Capt J. B. Haye, R. N. "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. B. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "The audience (representative of the learned Professions) was most enthusiastic." *Glasgow Herald*, 5th March, 1891 Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil Rs. 76; Ten pupils Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta; or to A LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London England.

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[illegible]ng promotions, confirmations, and [illegible]anctioned in the Police Department :—

[illegible]n the 1st April, 1891, vice Mr. W. C. [illegible]d to the fifth grade of District Superin-[illegible]ice :—

[illegible]'Oyly, Assistant Superintendent of Police, [illegible] on leave, to be promoted to the first grade.

[illegible]W. Thomas, Officiating Assistant Superin-[illegible]Police, second grade, to be confirmed in that [illegible]

[illegible]. A. Reily, Officiating Assistant Superintendent [illegible]e, to be appointed to the third grade of Assistant [illegible]ntendents, and to act in the second grade.

[illegible]ith effect from the 11th June, 1891, vice Mr. H. C. [illegible]ogstoun whose lien has been suspended :—

Mr. A. Shuttleworth, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, first grade, to be confirmed in that grade.

Mr. A. A. Campbell, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, second grade, to be confirmed in that grade.

Mr. W. T. Moore, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, to be appointed to the third grade of Assistant Superintendents, and to act in the second grade.

With effect from the 29th July, 1891, vice Mr. H. W. J. Bamber, retired:—

Mr. F. Wilcox, Officiating District Superintedent of Police, first grade, to be confirmed in that grade.

Mr. A. V. Knyvett, Officiating District Superintendent Police, second grade, to be confirmed in that grade.

Mr. H. Munro, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, third grade, to be confirmed in that grade.

Mr. G. B. Havelock, Officiating Dirtrict Superintendent of Police, fourth grade, to be confirmed in that grade.

Mr. G. H. P. Livesay, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, fiflh grade, to be confirmed in that grade.

Mr. S. N. Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the District Police, Jessore, is allowed leave for one mouth and twenty-eight days under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. W. T. Moor, Assistant Superinteudent of Police Dinagepore, is appointed to have charge of the district police of Jessore, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. S. N. Walker, or until further orders.

Mr. E. H. D,o Oyly, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Bengal, has been granted by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India an extension of four mouths on Medical certificate.

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THE SHERIFF OF CALCUTTA.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, beg to request that you will be good enough to call a meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta and the Suburbs on an early date with a view to consider what steps should be taken to perpetuate the momory of the late Raja Rajendralala Mitra, L.L.D., C.I.E.

We have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obdt. Servants,

Jotendra Mohun Tagore.
Narendra Krishna
Durga Churn Law
A. Croft
Sourendra Mohun Tagore
Romesh Chunder Mitter
Peary Mohun Mukerji
Rajendra Narain Deb
Abdul Latif
Debendro Mullick
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Kally Nath Mitter
Janoki Nath Roy
Sita Nath Roy
Chundi Lal Singh
Kunjo Lal Bannerji
Damodar Das Burman
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Koruna Sindhu Mukerji
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Joy Gobind Law
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Saligram Singh
Kishory Mohun Roy
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Tincawiy Mukerji
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In compliance with the foregoing requisition, I do hereby convene a meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta and the Suburbs to be held at the Town Hall on Thursday, the 27th day of August instant, at the hour of 5 P.M.

M F. SHAH,
Sheriff.

Sheriff's Office.
The 22nd August, 1891.

To

THE SHERIFF OF CALCUTTA.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, beg to request that you will be good enough to call a meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta and the Suburbs on an early date with a view to consider what steps should be taken to perpetuate the memory of the late Pandit Iswar Chunder Vidyasagar.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants,

Jotendra Mohun Tagore
Narendra Krishna
Sasisekhareswar Roy
Romesh Chunder Mitter
Srinath Dass
B Chukravarti
S P Sinha
Baidyanath Basu
Mahesh Chunder Nayaratna
Rash Behari Dass
Dinendra Narain Roy
Jahiruddin Ahmed
Mohiny Mohun Roy
Rash Behary Ghose
Saligram Singh
Asutosh Mukhopadhyaya
Trailokya Nath Mitter
Pundit Pran Nath Saraswati
Hem Chunder Bannerji
Durga Mohun Dass
A Chowdhury
Peary Mohun Mukerji
Serajul Islam
Durgagati Bannerji
Jogendra Chunder Ghose
Iswar Chunder Mitter
Charu Chunder Mallik
Roma Nath Ghose
Rajkumar Sarvadhikari
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Kally Nath Mitter
Saroda Churn Mitter
Krishna Kamul Bhuttacharji
Devendra Nath Roy
Baykuntha Nath Roy
Kissory Mohun Roy
J Ghosal
Mati Lal Ghose
Benaya Krishna
Raj Jogeshur Mitter
Bhupendra Nath Basu
Akshoy Churn Dass
Dwarka Nath Ganguli
Jogodish Chunder Lahiri
Nolin Behary Sirkar
Norendra Nath Sen
Suttya Badi Ghosal
Khudi Ram Bose
Umes Chunder Dutt
Jogesh Chundra Roy
Hari Mohun Chukravarti
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M F. SHAH,
Sheriff.

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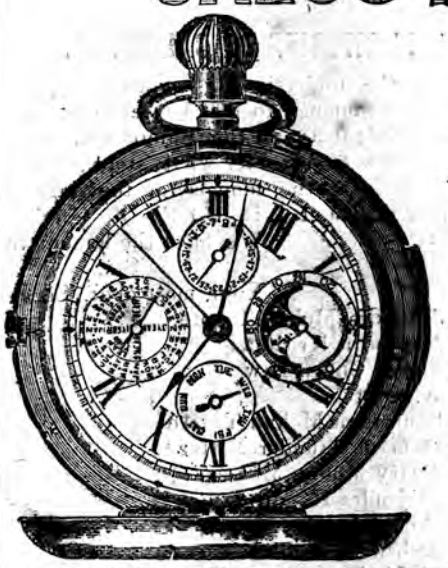

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LOCAL.

(Continued from p. 406.)

R. EVANS' SUMMING UP.

rst instance Mr. Evans dwelt on the as to the relative position of the n the *Bangabasi* press, which he con- had been sufficiently proved. He also on their respective liability, supposing their respective positions had been proved. arned Counsel then proceeded:

It would be very hard to attribute so much blame to them. But having regard to matters, which were before the Jury, and having regard to the fact that these were deliberate proceedings, in reference to which he would presently deal in connexion with the Age of Consent Bill, it would be for the Jury to consider whether the manager did not know what kind of paper he was managing and what kind of stuff he was printing and sending out. The circulation was large, 13,000 in the mofussil alone, and if the Jury thought that the manager knew what he was doing in sending these articles out, then it was very difficult to see that he was not attempting to excite certain feeling. The prosecution had proved the sending out of the issues on the three dates mentioned. As regards the printer, his case was somewhat different, but with regard to him he took it that if a printer put up and printed seditious matter with the knowledge that it would cause disaffection amongst the people, he must take the consequences of his own facts. Of course the criminality of people like these was of a different stamp to that of the principal offenders.

Counsel went on to say:—

As regarded intention, it must be remembered that intention was one thing and motive was another. If a robber went into a man's house with intention to rob money, and struck the owner with a knife, the intention of that robber was gain, but it could not be said that he did not intend to kill the man. Therefore, one must always distinguish between motive and intention. Of course one could see that what would be urged would be, that the motive of the printer and editor was a religious one—to defend their religion. As regards that, the partial cause of the Mutiny itself was according to them "dharma" or religion; and yet, although a man's motive might be to defend his religion or maintain some principles of importance in it, yet if he did acts which were calculated to endanger the State or excite disaffection, however high his motive might be, that would not save him. As regarded that, the Jury would have to remember that, if by any writings of an editor he incited the people to acts of lawlessness, he did none the less commit the crime of intentionally giving rise to sedition because he did it for his ordinary wages.

Regarding the "real matter of the case" Counsel observed:—

Although the word was somewhat wide and vague, "disaffection" meant to feelings of hatred and contempt to the Government as opposed to loyal and friendly feeling. There might be dis-approbation of the action of Government with regard to certain measures, and this it was absolutely necessary to allow expression to. It was necessary for the freedom of the press and always considered necessary by Englishmen wherever they went. This freedom of the press was never extended to till the year 1835, since when the press was able to express itself with the same freedom as the press of England.

Counsel then went on to vindicate Government regarding the Consent Bill, out of which these writings had arisen, and said:—

The Maharaja of Jeypur actually passed a law prohibiting intercourse with girls under fourteen. A man's religion was what he believed in, and it was no use telling any man that the religion he believed in was wrong. There were also people who wanted to interpret the Queen's proclamation as positively disabling the Government from interfering with anything which anybody considered to be a matter of religion in any connexion, and the Government said, No. They said that they relied upon that principle on which they passed the Suttee Regulation—a practice which was believed by a large number of Hindus to be a religious act.

This was the position, and the Government came to the conclusion, having regard to the want of unanimity amongst the Hindus, that, under the circumstances, it was necessary to treat the doing of this thing as a crime in the same way as Suttee. It was then that this paper started upon a career which he would briefly lay before the Jury—a career which he thought the Jury would find to be this. First of all, when they found that, notwithstanding the representations which were made, the Government took the position which they did, they determined to agitate for the repeal of the Act. They proceeded to vilify the Government in every possible way; they proceeded to misrepresent statements made by the Government to ignorant people, and to represent that their liberties and their religion were under the whim and caprice of foreign rulers. They abused the Governor-General in every possible way, introducing even the word "Mlechha," which there was not a Raja in India who would dare to use to the Viceroy in his presence. They started upon this career to try and arouse the people, not by discussing measures, but simply by making assertions and scattering them broad-cast amongst the people, attempting to inflame Mohamedans as well as Hindus with the idea that the Government had made up its mind to abolish the Hindu religion. Then the form of these articles was very peculiar. In many cases they represent themselves as making mock humble addresses to their rulers such as "Oh Prabhu," containing the bitterest insults and invection. They endeavoured to excite in the minds of the people feelings of the bitterest hatred and contempt of the Government, by calling them rakshasas, fiends and other fearful creations which were household words and well known legends in every Hindu family. Then they proceeded upon another attack. They knew the people to be very peaceable and law-abiding. They pointed out that this was because the people did not know any better, and that the people of the country believed that their misfortune arose from sins, which they had committed in their former transmigrations, and they pointed out that there were some who knew better who were beginning to cry out, and then they tried to do what they could in regard to these ingnorant people by accusing Government of being the cause of all their troubles.

They then went on to connect the British Raj with all sorts of calamities, such as famines, fever, cholera &c. Mr. Evans thought that the jury might probably know what the condition of the Hindus was at the time of the Mohamedan Raj. The bulk of them were kept in the most absolute subjection, and the idea of the Hindu breathing a word against the ruling power was absolutely preposterous. There would have been no trial, and any Hindu doing anything like this would have had his head off without any trial at all. There had been an enormous outlay upon railways to carry food from one district to another, and in Orissa millions had been spent in the construction of canals. All these things were known, but the scheme apparently was to impute all calamities to the British Government, and to represent that it was the cause of all miseries. It might seem to some people absurd to attribute all these things to the Government, and that blaming them for the lOrissa famine was as absurd as blaming the English Government for the failure of the potato crop in Ireland.

Reference was made to millions dying of starvation and decrease of population, and yet the Jury were probably aware that there had been an increase in the population of India to the extent of 29 millions in the last few years. All these things were put in the reverse way, and it was for the Jury to say what was the meaning of all this.

Counsel went on to say:—

It was very difficult to see what the motive of the writer was; it might be that if he got up a sufficient amount of religious feeling to be dangerous, the position of the Government would become intolerable, and that it would have to give way and repeal the Consent Act. But whether the writer was really actuated by strong religious fervour did not matter as regarded the verdict of the Jury, of guilt or innocence, although it might be a matter as regarded the amount of punishment which might be awarded them. It might be that a religious fanatic might have a less punishment awarded to him than a man who did the same thing from motives of greed or any other lower motive; but that had nothing to do with the question of guilty or not guilty. One thing was certain, and it was this, that as the case was one of prosecution for seditious libel against the Government, no justification could be pleaded. No Government could listen to this, and it was not possible for any Government to listen to any plea of this kind. It was not possible for the writer to say that he looked upon this as a detestable Government, and that he claimed the right to destroy that Government unless it fell in with his views of religion. That was not an argument which could be heard in any court of justice. This was a matter in regard to which there was only one course. If they were going to live under this Raj, and going to have themselves protected by the Courts of this Raj, they must admit that it was the Government of the time being, and that whoever attempted to excite seditious feelings against it, must be punished.

Counsel thus concluded:—

He had laid the matter very fully before the Jury, and had given them all the assistance he could in regard to it. He desired the Jury, on behalf of the Crown, to consider thoroughly what the real meaning of these things was, and not to fix upon any particular expression, but to make up their minds as thoroughly and justly as they could whether these things did come within the section or whether they did not. It was further to be considered that it was a matter of very great regret to the Government to have had to invoke the aid of a Jury as regarded crimes of this kind, especially as the Government had left the press free here, freer, if possible, than it was in England. No one could say that the press was not free here. Ever since 1835 it has been free as in England, except in one year when that freedom had to be suspended during the Mutiny, and between 1878 and 1882, when, having spread seditious matter among ignorant people, it was thought necessary to place some powers in the hands of the executive. But after a short time the Act was repealed. That Act was passed at the time of the Russo-Turkish War, when it was not certain that England would not be involved in it, in which case it would have been impossible to have allowed the sort of language which was then going on to go on. The vernacular press was relieved from its restrictions, and the Jury saw before them that day what one of these papers had taken to doing. As regarded the remedy, the only remedy was to bring the matter before a Jury to consider, whether they, knowing their responsibilites as Judges between the Governmen on the one hand and the liberty of the Press on the other, considered the accused guilty. Holding the scales evenly, Mr. Evans asked them to say whether they were of opinion that the acts with which the accused had been charged came within the section.

His Lordship said he would direct the Jury as to the meaning of the section. Mr. Jackson objected, saying that it would be for the Jury to decide with regard to law and fact, and asked his Lordship whether any note had been made of his objection with regard to the written sanction for prosecution. His Lordship said that it would be his duty to direct the Jury on the construction of the section, and that he had already made a ruling in reference to the point ofsanction.

Fourth Day.

On Friday Mr. Jackson began his address on behalf of the accused and before addressing the Jury he submitted to the Chief Justice that no case had been made out by the prosecution under Section 124 A. Indian Penal Code to go to the Jury.

The section said "that whoever by words either spoken or intended to be read attempts to excite feelings of disaffection." The words spoken or intended to be read were coupled together; "words spoken" must be spoken by the man himself and the "words intended to be read" must be words written by the man himself, that was to say, that the writer of the words in the same way as it would be only the speaker. He submitted that the words were so strong and clear that his lordship would have no doubt in holding that this indictment was bad; but he asked that if his lordship was against that, he would reserve the question for the consideration of a Full Bench of the Court. This was not a technical objection in that sense. The prosecution had conceded that they could not find out who the writer of these articles was, as the accused had refused to give up his name; so that it was on the clearest possible evidence that the case for the prosecution was that the writer was absolutely unknown. His lordship would see the gravity of the offence from the extreme punishment provided by the law, and could it be contended that in addition to the words of the section other words were to be read and the operation of the section be thus extended. If this case was being tried in England he would have moved for arrest of judgment.

In England under Lord Campbell's Act, it was not the publication of the paper, but the publication of the libel that was to be proved. In former days a person was criminally responsible for the acts of his agents. That was done away with. The prosecution had to bring home to the person accused the composition of the particular articles with which he was charged. It must be brought home to him individually, and Mr. Jackson knew nothing more monstrous than that the proprietor of a newspaper should be held liable for sedition and to transportation for life because the editor employed in his office did a thing of this kind. The link which connected the accused, the matter with which these men were charged, was not proved, that, in fact, a link was wanting.

The Chief Justice said he thought it was perfectly clear that there was a case to go to the jury. The question turned on the meaning of section 124 A, and Mr. Jackson's contention was that only the speaker of the words or the composer of the sentence was liable under this section. His lordship thought that was not the meaning of the section, and he did not think the contention was borne out by the words of the section. They were: "whoever, by words intended to be read, attempts to excite feelings of disaffection towards the Government, &c." Whoever the composer or the writer might be, by whomsoever the writing or the printing was composed

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the person who used them for that purpose in the opinion of the jury was guilty of the offence under Section 124A. Mr. Jackson here asked his lordship to reserve the point under Chapter 25 of the Charter. The Chief Justice observed that the point was so clear that he must decline to reserve it.

Mr. Jackson next addressed the Court on the point whether, from what had fallen some time previously from his lordship, the Judge intended in his charge to the jury to lay down the law in the case. His lordship said that that was his intention. Mr. Jackson said that this could not be done. This was a case of libel, and while in other cases the law was for the judge and the facts for the jury, in cases of libel the jury had to decide both on facts and law. He read out several authorities in support of his contention, but the Judge ruled against him, as this was more a case of sedition than of libel.

Mr. Jackson next proceeded to address the Jury and said:—

The case against the accused was a weak, wicked, and contemptible prosecution, and yet no one could exaggerate the importance of the trial. In every case in which a newspaper had been prosecuted in any country, the address to the jury by the counsel for the prosecution was always prefaced by a reference to the liberty of the press, and apologies were made that it was found necessary to interfere with the freedom of the press, and the jury had been asked to deal wtth this case in a free and unbiased spirit. This had been done in this case by both the counsel for the prosecution who had addressed the jury; but at the same time they had done their utmost to prejudice the jury against the accused. Instead of placing the case for the consideration of the jury in as unprejudiced a light as possible, considerable effort had been made to place the matter in as worse a light as possible, and the great majority of the jury being Englishmen, several extra articles, which had no reflections whatever against the Government, had been imported into the case, because they contained abuse of the English people and English customs. And those articles had been read and re-read to the jury, with a view to excite their feelings against the accused—not that he for a moment meant to insinuate that the jury would be influenced by the tactics. While on this subject he would like to make a remark in regard to the manner in which the juries of the Court were made up. It was a recognised principle that when an European was put on his trial, he was allowed the privilege of being tried by a jury the majority of whom were his own countrymen. Why should not a native be permitted the same privilege and be tried by the majority of his countrymen? In this case he would beg the jury to believe that he meant no reflection on them. He only wanted to draw attention to the fact that there was only one native gentleman on the jury. Only the other day it happened that 17 European names were called out before a single native was empanelled for the two juries which were fixed for that day. Surely there were sufficient honorable native gentlemen of sufficient position to serve as special jurors, and the practice which had hitherto prevailed in the Court was one to be deprecated in the strongest terms.

Section 124A., I. P. C.

M. Jackson then proceeded to say:—

He would have necessarily to address them at considerable length, and he would ask them to bear with him. This was a prosecution on behalf of the Crown, and among the counsel for the prosecution was a Member of the Viceregal Council—a gentleman who when he undertook to appear in the case, must have known of the impossibility to convict under the section under which the accused was charged. The difficulty that would arise in securing a conviction under the section has been present before the law-officers of the Supreme Council ever since the section was passed into law. The matter had been discussed very frequently in that Council whenever any alteration of the law was suggested, and the Hon'ble Mr. Evans could not have been unaware that the Legal Members of the Council have always owned the difficulty, and remedies have from time to time been discussed. Much has been said about the freedom of the press and the unwillingness of Government to interfere with its privileges; but it was a notorious fact that ever since freedom was first given to the press in India, the Government had every twenty years attempted to curtail its privileges. The last time this had been done was in 1878, and we have now again a threat from the counsel for the prosecution, that unless the jury arrives at the opinion held by the prosecution in this case, and find a verdict of guilty, Government would be compelled to alter the law which now regulates the press in India. On this occasion it is the vernacular press which is in danger. In Lord Mayo's time it was the English journals which were the strongest opponents of the Government of India, and the most out-spoken in their condemnation of some of the measures of Government. Mr. Jackson here read an extract from a minute by Lord Hobhouse written while he was Law Member of the Viceregal Council, on the subject of the introduction of a law to regulate the Vernacular Press in India. Lord Hobhouse was of opinion that it was not the native press which required curbing by the English press, and that during the term of his office he had never known any native papers criticise Government and its measures with that contemptuous and almost defamatory freedom as the English papers of the day had done. When a similar proposal came up before Sir Fitzjames Stephen for opinion, he remarked that the native papers had to learn of the English press the meaning of seditious writings. It was the English and not the native papers which were guilty of undue license in their writings. Mr. Jackson here read certain articles from the *Statesman* and the *Englishman*, which he described as far more seditious in their tendency and a good deal more calculated to incite disaffection among the people than the articles which formed the subject of the charge against the *Bangabasi* in this case. Neither of those papers had been prosecuted, in fact, no Government had ever previously thought it necessary to prosecute a newspaper, although far worse things and more exciting articles had been written. The Government must feel itself weak indeed when it found it necessary to defend itself against such senseless writings as the *Bangabasi* had published.

Mr. Jackson then discussed at great length the interpretation which had throughout been put upon Section 124. A by the different Law and other members of the Viceregal Council. He pointed out that according to the Law Commissioners and men like Sir Barnes Peacock, the section was vague and unworkable and that Sir Barnes proposed to substitute another section of his own making for it, which, however, on being submitted to the Commissioners, was rejected on the ground that it was more severe than that of Sir Fitz James Stephen *viz*, the present section. In this connection Sir FitzJames Stephen said that people might criticise and censure the Government as much as they liked and yet not come under this section, if it could be shown that their conduct was not incompatible with a disposition to render obedience to the lawful authority ofthe Government, and if they did not incite any overt acts of hostility or violence to the Government. To show how far journalists might proceed, Sir FitzJames Stephen quoted certain articles from the Anglo-Indian journals of that time which vilified the Government in the bitterest terms. Mr. Jackson said if those articles quoted by the framer of the section himself did not amount to sedition how the articles in the *Bangabasi* in which there was nothing even half as bitter, could be said to do so, was beyond his comprehension altogether. He then pointed out how the Government of Lord Lytton inspite of the erudite help of Sir Charles (then Mr.) Paul and Mr. Evans who were then both in the Council, had found a prosecution under this section impossible and in so many words declared it. They therefore passed the Gagging Act of 1878. He pointed out also that most of the arguments of Mr. Evans, when addressing the jury for the prosecution had been culled from the various discussions on the subject of the Press Law from time to time in the Viceregal Council though not so acknowledged.

Mr. Jackson then referred to what the counsel for the prosecution had told the Jury in urging them to remember that if they failed to discharge their duty such as counsel for the prosecution considered it to be, a new Gagging Act may be passed. He said that he might as well ask them to remember that even if a Gagging Act be passed, a General re-Election was at hand, and that on a former occasion, as under exactly similar circumstances a new Viceroy had been sent to India to undo what mischief to the Press of India had been done by the previous Viceroy. He further said that whatever may be the verdict of the Jury, he was sure that the bringing of a charge of sedition on such materials would be the laughing stock of the people and the press at home. He reminded the Jury that a Free Press in India was its Parliament and in the words of Sir William Hunter its development was the only justification for postponing the introduction of representative Government of India.

The Consent Bill.

Mr. Jackson entered into a spirited vindication of the agitation against the Consent Bill which Counsel said had given great provocation to Hindus. He said if he had [illegible] orthodox he would shed the la[illegible] life's blood in an agitation for ta[illegible] accursed Act out of the Statute [illegible] He went on to say:—

According to the Government translat[illegible] given evidence for the prosecution, the p[illegible] the Age of Consent were considered by a lar[illegible] of the people of Bengal as an interference [illegible] religious customs, and in consequence the pe[illegible] been excited to an unusual degree. It was appare[illegible] this witness gave his evidence with much reluc[illegible] and that he, being a Government servant, felt the d[illegible] culty of his position and was most cautious in his replies, some of which were no answers to the questions put to him. However, the defence were able to wring out of him the fact that as an orthodox Hindoo he believed that the Act was an interference with the religion of the people, and that the people felt very strongly on the matter. The gentlemen of the jury had read the articles complained of, and they had been read and re-read to them so often that the very mention of them must be nauseous; but he regretted that for the purposes of the defence he would have to go over them again. This was one of the most curious and ridiculous cases that he had ever known. The prosecution had stated repeatedly that the articles were calculated to excite fierce hatred against the Government and incite the people to disaffection and even rebellion. Yet it was passing strange that not a single witness had been called to prove that they had had any such effect. The jury were not only bound to take an impartial view of the case, but it was also their duty to put a liber al and generous construction on them

Counsel then proceeded to read the articles *seriatim*.

It was a most peculiar circumstance, he urged, that although the accused were charged with seditious intent against the Government there was not a single line in any one of the articles of the indictment against the Government. He would ask the jury to take it as a positive fact that nowhere in any one of the articles is the Government mentioned, and yet the accused are charged with endeavouring to incite the people into rebellion against the Government. The articles were written at a time of intense excitement, by people intensely excited at what they solemnly believed was an illegal interference with their religion, nay, who believed that an attempt was being made to destroy their religion, and they were written with the sole aim of preventing the passing of the objectionable Bill, and counsel thought that the writer or writers of the articles were well within their rights in writing as they did. The Government had selected the worst articles that they could find in the *Bangabasi*, for this they could accept his word.

It could not have escaped the jury that every one of the articles put in by the prosecution had been written in a tone of abject submission to the ruling Government, and although here and there Englishmen and English customs were spoken of in a highly uncomplimentary style, a spirit of loyalty to the Government runs through every one of them. The question is put in one of the articles whether anything is to be gained by rendering the people discontented. Had they not a perfect right to put such a question? Where was the disloyalty, where the sedition, where the inciting to disaffection in doing this? The fact is, the Government are not inclined to retrace their steps, and they feel that if the agitation is continued they may be forced to repeal the Act, and they are most anxious to stifle all discussion which may tend to keep up the agitation. Whatever the result of the case might be, this much was certain, that the Government had placed itself in such a pitiable plight that they would be the laughing-stock of every paper in England. Better that there should be no press at all than that its freedom should be interfered with in this ridiculous and arbitrary and illegal manner.

There are truths reported and broad facts stated, but if these can be called sedition, every argument may be said to incite disaffection. He was surprised at the utter twaddle which had been relied upon for the purpose of obtaining a conviction in this case. With regard to what is said about our courts of justice, he would ask the jury to say whether every word was not absolutely true. Everybody knew that it had gone to protect the frontier. Whatever had been said in regard to the Consent Bill and girl-wives was nothing beyond legitimate comment. The Government instead of attending to the legitimate wants of its subjects, had gone out of its way to legislate regarding child-wives. It was professed that this was being done in the interests of the natives, but they did not want the measure, and he could not conceive anything more irritating than having the Bill forced on them.

A great deal of the energy, fire and eloquence of Mr. Jackson's Speech has been lost in the reporting. He will resume his address this morning and on its conclusion the learned Chief Justice will proceed to charge the Jury.